Dr. Krause on Cause Of Crime Among Bantu.

Below is reproduced an extract from the report in the "Natal Mercury" of Dr. M.T. Krause's paper "Crime and Punishment," read at the Annual Congress of the South African Association for the Advancement of Science. Dr. Krause before retiring was Judge-President of the Orange Free State.

"Dealing with Native Delinquency," says the 'Natal Mercury' "Dr. Krause said that the cardinal fact that had been overlooked was that, although there were many Native prisoners, there were few Native criminals."

"In 1938, 157, 503 sentenced prisoners were admitted to gaol. Of these, 117, 122 were Native men, 16,697 Native women, and 3,365 European men.

"As many as 111,407 had sentences of one month and under. Native tax cases accounted for no less than 66.21 per cent of Native male sentences of one month or less."

CRIMINALS.

'These figures speak volumes and I have no hesitation in saying that the pass law system, tax law enforcement and other by-law contraventions are responsible for about 90 per cent of our Native prison population. We have literally made criminals of our Natives.'

"Dr. Krause enumerated a number of conclusions to which he had come.

"The neglect of the interests of the non-European prison population and the short-sighted policy in dealing with the problem affecting their reform and rehabilitation, he said, was a grave reflection on those who should have given a lead to the public in these matters.

"The industrial and economic boycott of the Native, resulting in an increase of poverty and lowering of the moral standard of the non-European, had largely contributed to the increase of crime among them. A radical revision of the laws in this respect is long overdue.

NATIVE COURTS.

"'Criminalcourt procedure as applied to the Native is unsatisfiable and often leads to a miscarriage of justice. Steps should be taken to establish Native Courts for the trial of Natives.

"'Only those Europeans should be allowed to take part in the proceedings and constitution of such courts as are fully acquainted with the Native languages, and, through experience and education, possess a thorough knowledge of Native Law and Customs and have gained an insight into Native mentality.'"

"MANUFACTURING CRIMINALS"

Mr. Bruce Airey, chief of the Parole Bureau of Alabama, is no sentimentalist about prisoners, but he nevertheless is one of the most enlightened students of prison problems in Alabama. Recently in a pamphlet Mr. Airey printed a document which The Advertiser believes should be read critically by every Alabamian. In it he says:

To preclude the possibility of being misunderstood in what I am about to say, and to further clarify the second quotation above used, I must call attention to the following facts. The handling of the penal population in Alabama is rated very highly by national and non-partisan organizations, who classify such procedure on purely an efficiency basis. Kilby Prison was recently rated as one of the three best prisons in the nation and the best in the South. The road camps are classified as the best in the nation by the Osborne Association, New York, in its report in Handbook of American Prisons and Reformatories.

The writer heard the statement repeatedly on the floor of the conference at the recent meeting of the American Prison Association that Alabama had the best prison employment schedule of any State in the Union.

Recently two officials from the Department of Justice, Washington, D. C., after a tour of inspection of Kilby Prison, stated that it was the best kept prison they had seen.

But when these facts are all given due consideration, the inescapable fact remains that in spite of and entirely beyond the control of any prison administration or administrator these very prisons are "criminal manufacturing plants," on account of the State having made no real effort of scientific classification and segregation.

The warden has no choice when the prisoner arrives, but to assign him to one of the cell blocks containing from 50 to 100 other prisoners of all ages and degrees of depravity and desperation.

Mr. Airey continues by saying:

"As this is written the prison population of this State has reached the record height of 6,991, and of this number 1,023 are under 21 years of age, and 1,675 are under 25 years of age. My contention is that the State, by placing these young first offenders indiscriminately with the hardened, confirmed criminals, degenerates and perverts, is forcing upon these first offenders a post-graduate course in crime, and directly contributing to recidivism.

"On a recent and very superficial review of the records of one Alabama prison with a total of more than 1,500 prisoners, I found that nearly one-third had served previous sentences. This was based entirely on information from the prisoners themselves, and I am sure that this number is far too small.

Prisoners serving 2nd sentence	283
Prisoners serving 3rd sentence	84
Prisoners serving 4th sentence	46
Prisoners serving 5th sentence	27
Prisoners serving 6th sentence	13

"Fifty per cent of them could neither read nor write.

"For three years I have been intimately associated with the inside of the various prisons of Alabama. I have interviewed thousands of these prisoners, singly and alone, on the most confidential basis. Many of them have told me their story without reservation, as they never told judges, jury or attorney, knowing that they had nothing to lose and hoping for some favorable consideration, being assured that absolute frankness was the very essence of the interview."

Mr. Airey reaches the following conclusions:

1. That a pre-disposition to delinquency caused by abnormal, subnormal and psychopathic traits does not necessarily and inevitably result in criminality.

2. That there is not a different and peculiar type of individual, so distinctly differentiated from the group by physical characters as to be readily recognized as the possessor of specifically ingrained criminal tendencies.

3. That well defined criminal tendencies are not necessarily inherited, nor the individual fore-ordained to a life of a crime, irrespective and independent of his environmental settings.

Mr. Airey, the pamphleteer, buttresses his theory by quoting a personal letter from J. Edgar Hoover, the famous FBI man, in which Mr. Hoover says to the Alabamian:

"I am confident that the point you have in mind, namely the necessity of the classification or segregation of criminals will not only be a timely one, but likewise will be most helpful.

"A prison to warrant its existence has a two-fold objective, first the protection of society, and second the reformation and rehabilitation of individual prisoners. The first objective is obtained by removing from society anti-social individuals and punishing them for their mis-deeds. The second objective can be realized only by a well correlated program designed to fit the individual. Classification and segregation behind prison walls are as necessary as the abolition of maudlin sentimentalism. Common sense points toward the absolute necessity of the practical treatment of criminals, tempered with mercy and justice in a manner that will further their development into worthwhile, productive citizens, rather than give them post-graduate courses in crime, making them past masters in depredation."

Lash Will Greet Convicts Breaking Parole, If Caught

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—(AP)—Alabama convicts who broke a "man-to-man honor agreement" with Gov. Graves by failing to return from Christmas paroles may expect to feel the sting of the lash when the law finally tracks them down.

Warden Frank Boswell, of Kilby Prison, said today the lash was the usual punishment for such infringement on honesty and trust.

Meanwhile, the State Convict Department made a check of Alabama's scattered prisons to determine how many of the 602 allowed to spend Christmas at home had failed to return.

Indications were the record might be as good, or better, than last year when 16 of 540 given "good behavior" vacations were not on hand by the deadline set by the governor.

At Kilby, Boswell reported eight (all white men) were unaccounted for, out of 149 released at that institution Dec. 17 on their word-of-honor to return by midnight, Jan. 1.

"Several will show up later, I believe, with various excuses," Boswell said. "However, others probably won't be back until they are arrested somewhere and we send for them."

Of those released from Kilby, 65 were white and 84 Negroes. All the latter had returned except two who were freed two days after the others and have until tomorrow to report at the prison gate.

Returning Honor Parolees Looked To For New Mark

MONTGOMERY, Ala., Jan. 2—(AP)—Alabama prison authorities figuratively held their fingers crossed Monday night, awaiting word from wardens on the results of this season's Christmas paroles.

Information received up to late Monday indicated that the record might be as good or better than that of last year, when 16 of 540 given "good behavior" vacations failed to return.

Out at Kilby Prison, near here, Warden Frank Boswell reported nine men—all white—unaccounted for out of 149 released Dec. 17 on their word-of-honor to return by midnight.

"Several will show up later, I believe, with various excuses," Boswell said. "However, others probably won't be back until they are arrested somewhere and we send for them."

Of those released from Kilby, 65 were white and 84 Negroes. All of the latter had returned except two, who were freed two days after the others and have until Jan. 4.

With the capitol closed for the holiday, there was no information on the records established at other prisons. A total of 602 convicts were given Yule paroles by Gov. Bibb Graves.

Boswell said he had heard that all parolees had returned to road camps at Camden and Auburn, but he did not know how many had been liberated from the camps.

Birmingham [illegible] Age-Herald
January 6, 1939

BURGLARY ATTEMPT CHARGED

TALLADEGA, Ala., Jan. 5—Charged with attempting to burglarize the business office of Talladega College for Negroes on Dec. 19, three men were bound over to the Grand Jury here Thursday in the Inferior Court of Judge J. J. Cockrell. Howard Bonds, local officer, said he exchanged shots with the men on the campus Dec. 19, and took dynamite from one, whose name he gave as Elmer Hines. The other two were listed as Audley Golden and Clarence Hall.

Ensley, Ala. Press
February 2, 1939

School Entered

Frank W. Hudnall, special investigator for the Birmingham Board of Education, reported Monday to the police department that $10.22 in kitchen equipment had been taken from the Council School for Negroes, Ensley.

THREE ETOWAH PRISONERS FLEE

Second Jail Break In Two Weeks Staged At Gadsden Prison

GADSDEN, Ala., Jan. 26—The second jail break staged at the Etowah County Jail here in as many weeks, resulted Thursday in the escape of three prisoners.

The escaped men, J. D. Armstrong, 26; Bill Crumpton, 32, and Hugh Hodge, all of Etowah County, were said by prison authorities to have cut a chain on the door of the prison cell with razor blades, and made their escape after forcing three Negro prisoners to precede them down a stairway.

Officers said the prisoners locked a Negro janitor in an empty cell, took his keys, released the three Negro prisoners and descended to the main floor of the jail, where the warden was taken unawares.

The Negroes were captured by officers before they had a chance to adjust themselves to the escape.

Three days ago, jail officials said they had searched the cells and found several saw blades and loosened bars and had moved the prisoners to the second floor of the jail. Abut two weeks ago, nine prisoners escaped from the same prison in a sensational break and two were recaptured later.

White Robbers Attempt To Rob Talladega College

TALLADEGA, Ala.—(AP)—Three white men were arrested here on charges of burglary and assault with intent to murder in connection with an attempt to burglarize the office of Talladega College and a subsequent gun battle with a police officer.

Two of the men held under warrants after their arrest at Gadsden, Ala., were booketed as Clarence (Curly) Hall, and Autrey Golden, white, both of Alabama City. The third white man, identified as Aubrey (Hamburger) Hines, was arrested at the college after having been wounded in the head and foot in the gun battle, according to Sheriff's Deputy J. L. Green.

Whites Disturb Talladega Peace

TALLADEGA, Ala., Feb. 9 — (ANP) — Race relations in this peaceful little Alabama area where Talladega college is located have been a bit strained in recent weeks, but school and city officials are hoping for an early return to normalcy.

The current unrest began some months ago when a white man endeavored to rob the comptroller's office. The school's night watchman caught him after shooting the intruder in the leg. White people about the town, a small village near the school, were a bit indignant about the shooting, even though the police department backed the watchman. There was some talking about blowing up one of the buildings. A little later the barn belonging to the college did burn down rather mysteriously, causing some thousands of dollars worth of damage. There was no evidence pointing to the origin of the fire.

Disturbance at Theatre

Then two weeks ago, there was a bit of disturbance at the local theatre, which has a section for its colored patrons. Because of the tension, the girls were not allowed to attend this particular show because it was a midnight performance, but a few college boys went. A little fracas arose between the colored and white crowds, composed almost entirely of townsfolk. A college boy was struck by the police and the boy fell back on a white woman knocking her nearly under a car.

The student body talked the situation over and at present is refraining from attending the theatre. Any disturbance in the economic relations between the school and the town, which gets a good deal of its patronage from the institution normally, merely accentuates whatever feeling exists. The mayor and chief of police have been out to talk with President Gallagher. For a time a few students were apprehensive. The situation seems to be quieting down, however, and it is hoped will soon blow over.

Birmingham, Ala. Post
January 6, 1939

He Deplores Our Country's Crime

Editor, The Post:

I noticed in The Post where one of the oldest stores in Birmingham (Yeilding Bros.) had been robbed of $4000. I am sure thousands of people are asking themselves why is there so much crime and robbery being committed in our country. Especially in a city like Birmingham that has just proved beyond a shadow of a doubt that it has so many thousands of good liberal hearted people living there. See what the Goodfellows did and the large amount for the Community Chest.

On the other hand as we see so much crime committed in Birmingham it makes every good citizen feel so sad. When we think of such men as Rev. George Stuart and Brother Bryan and others who have spent their lives pointing men and women to a higher and nobler life, it just doesn't seem possible that the sensibilities of the soul could be so completely destroyed and that men could commit the crimes we have in Birmingham and our country today.

There is a cause for such conditions. What chance is there for spiritual growth if a person never goes to church or Sunday school, never reads his Bible at home, but spends his Sabbaths hunting, fishing, going to the movies, baseball games, skating rinks, dance halls, drinking and gambling. There is no chance for spiritual growth. Such men as Brothers Bryan and Stuart could not reach them there. At least I have never heard of them preaching at such places.

This thought comes home to me when I hear of some crime or tragedy. How much am I to blame for it? Whatever the condition our country is in today you and I have a part in it.

Let me call your attention to things in a national way in the way of crime and no one was punished for it that I know of. At the close of the War Between the States cotton sold for $1 per pound. Northern capitansts came South and rented our large plantations, furnished the Negroes and made lots of high priced cotton. A great many of the good working Negroes made money. The Freedman's banks were set up all over the South and the Negroes put their money in the bank. When cotton went down these banks all closed and robbed those Negroes of millions of dollars. In the early 1870s they robbed them again on the 40-acres and mule plan the United States was going to give them. Was anyone punished for that? I mentioned two weeks ago the 2500 million dollars the South lost on cotton in 1920-1921. This was brought about by a few big bankers and 6000 banks failed in a few years.

In 1907 when the Sherman law was broken and an uncalled for money panic was brought on and our people lost large sums of money, was anyone punished for that? Then the Teapot Dome oil scandal. Senator Fall was punished to some extent for that. Then the 2500 million dollars the South lost on cotton in 1920 and 1921, was anyone punished for that? We in a public way are to blame for a great deal of the crimes committed in the United States today.

B. B. PEETE,
Montevallo.

Eufaula, Ala. Tribune
February 25, 1939

Negro Terrorizes Colored Residents Of The Bluff

Fred Crews, colored "Bully of the Bluff," went on a rampage last night and had to have the attention of Chief McCullohs and Officer Irby. Negroes of the community reported that Crews, with gun and knife in hand, entered a number of residences of negroes, while occupants huddled under beds or beneath houses. At one place, he was reported to have entered just as supper was placed on the table and while the "master of the house" cringed in a corner of the room, he ate all of the food and then went to a nearby house and pointed a pistol at two negro girls.

When the officers arrived they found Crews "cold sober" and unarmed. A search revealed his knife under the mattress of a bed, but no gun was found. The negro is spending today in Hotel de Eufaula.

Birmingham, Ala. Post
March 2, 1939

BOYS DRAW SENTENCES IN PROTECTION RACKET

A small-fry revival of the notorious gangsterism of Chicago and New York came to light in Ensley today when two Negro boys were sent to jail for operating a "protection" racket.

Testimony before Judge Frederick V. Wells showed that Herman Gratton, 17, and Lee Vance Jones, 17, had demanded money from other youths on the threat of bodily harm.

From one boy they obtained 20 cents after holding his thumb on the pavement and grinding it with their heels, police said. They were fined $100 and sentenced to six months in jail each.

Birmingham, Ala. News
February 24, 1939

More Police Officers Needed

"Birmingham is really getting to be a metropolitan city, and the need for additional police officers was greatly impressed upon me this past week after riding around in police radio squad cars with the officers answering various calls ranging from Negro fights to burglaries," said Public Safety Commissioner Connor. "At one time Saturday night almost every police car in the city was busy answering calls in their respective territories, and even the shift captain and field sergeant were busy backing up the various police cars on their assignments."

Birmingham, Ala. Post
March 8, 1939

SIX COUNTY PRISONERS ARE ORDERED LASHED

Corporal punishment for six county prisoners, two whites and four Negroes, was sanctioned today by the County Commission on request of Harry Hendon, county engineer.

The two white men, James Lee Kenneth and Robert Deloney, engaged in a fight at Ketona Camp, Mr. Hendon charged, during which they abused a guard and used profane language in the presence of several women visitors.

The Negroes are charged with attacking a convict guard. One of them, Charlie Phillips, lunged at Guard George Ellard with a shovel and Jesse Cowan, Willie Peterson and Eddie Robertson aided and abetted him, according to the charges.

E. H. Gilmore, county road superintendent, was designated to lash the prisoners.

Talladega, Ala., Daily Home
April 3, 1939

City Officers Report 24 Week End Arrests

Twenty-four persons were arrested during the weekend as minor law violations were unusually frequent in the city.

Officers arrested eight for drunkenness, one for speeding, three for disorderly conduct, one for burglary and one for assault to murder.

The remainder of the docket that will confront Judge A. N. Parsons in Police Court this afternoon is made up of 10 Sunday gaming charges, filed against a group of Negroes.

Montgomery, Ala. Journal
June 20, 1939

Two Negro Convicts Flee From Road Gangs

Escape reports were issued Monday by officials at Kilby prison for two negro convicts, Andrew Howard, 22, and Frank Pearson, 26, who allegedly escaped from road gangs during the past two days.

EX-CONVICT NABBED BY CHAUFFEUR

Downtown Street Scene Of Robbery Attempt By Paroled Man

MRS. E. H. ANDREWS IS INTENDED VICTIM

Former Kilby Prisoner Reported Unarmed By Traffic Officer

Less than 24 hours after he was paroled from Kilby Prison, A. D. (Pud) Porter was in the city jail Monday on charges of attempted robbery, after being captured by Joe Caster, Negro chauffeur for Mrs. E. H. Andrews, 9 Rhodes Circle.

Police quoted Caster as saying that he was backing out of a parallel parking space on Third Avenue between Eighteenth and Nineteenth Streets, North, when Porter opened the door and hopped in, saying, "Drive on or I'll blow your brains out!"

Mrs. Andrews, who was on the back seat, offered Porter all the money she had in her possession, police said, but the would-be robber refused and reiterated his command.

Caster said that he rammed his foot on the accelerator, ran into the car ahead of him and hooked bumpers, making it impossible to move farther without getting out of the car and freeing the bumpers.

At this point, Caster related, Mrs. Andrews opened the rear door next to the sidewalk and started to get out. Porter whirled around to see what she was doing and as he did, Caster said, he grabbed him around the neck and held him until the arrival of Traffic Officer Gordon Parsons.

Officer Parsons, who said that Porter was not armed, carried the prisoner to headquarters, where he was questioned by City Detectives M. V. Harless, F. J. Smith and Abe Goldstein.

Detective Chief E. L. Hollums said that Porter has served several terms in Kilby for burglary and grand larceny and that at the time of his parole he was serving on those charges.

EX-CONVICT HELD IN EFFORT TO ROB, ABDUCT MATRON

Bold Kidnap Attempt On Downtown Street Foiled By Negro Chauffeur

Ex-Convict A. D. (Pud) Porter, 29, a self-styled "tough guy," today was in City Jail in connection with a kidnap-robbery attempt on Mrs. E. H. Andrews, 76, prominent Birmingham woman, whose quick-thinking Negro chauffeur emerged as the hero in a scuffle with Porter in the Andrews automobile, parked downtown.

Porter, who was released from Kilby Prison Sunday, threatened to kill both Mrs. Andrews and the chauffeur, Joe Caster, 36, according to Officer Gordon Parsons, who made the arrest. The incident occurred about 6:30 p.m. yesterday, in front of 1812 Third Avenue, North, where the car was parked parallel to the street.

Porter slipped into the front seat with the chauffeur a minute or two after Mrs. Andrews returned from a visit to a nearby store, and as the Negro was backing out of the parking space. "Don't either of you move," he commended, "I'm after money and I'll kill you both."

Frightened, Mrs. Andrews murmured, "I'll give you $5 to get out of here."

"I'll be damned if you will," Porter shot back, "I'm going to take every damned thing you've got."

When Mrs. Andrews managed to get the back door open, attracting Porter's attention, the Negro chauffeur grabbed the ex-convict, holding him around the neck and by one arm. Mrs. Andrews' screams brought passersby quickly to the scene until Officer Parsons arrived from his station at the corner of Nineteenth Street and Third Avenue, North.

As Officer Parsons snapped the handcuffs on Porter, who was unarmed, the former Kilby prisoner blustered, "I guess you don't know who I am—I'm not going anywhere with you."

Starting back on foot to the police station, Porter brought Parsons to a halt at the corner of Nineteenth Street and Third Avenue, North. "This is as far as I go," Porter told the officer.

Officer Parsons said Porter spouted a stream of curses en route to headquarters and that he stopped again as they came to "police alley," near the City Hall. "I'm plenty tough and you're not going to take me to headquarters," he told Parsons. He went on quietly when a police car rolled up.

City Detectives Abe Goldsteain, M. V. Harless and F. J. Smith questioned the man, who told Goldstein: "I'll shoot it out with you right now if you want to."

Although Mrs. Andrews, who lives at 9 Rhodes Circle, expressed the opinion Porter was intoxicated, the detectives said he evidently had "only a couple of drinks."

Following the questioning, officers said they believed Porter responsible for injuries suffered by Capt. R. H. Hawkins about 10 years ago when the officer tried to quell a fight among a group of juveniles in North Birmingham. Capt. Hawkins was kicked in the lower abdomen and shortly afterward was forced to retire.

Porter had a long criminal record. He was convicted of forgery in 1932 and sent to the county road for 545 days; convicted of burglary charges in 1933 and given two years; convicted of grand larceny of an automobile in 1934; picked up in Milwaukee on suspicion in 1935 and sent to Kilby Prison from three to five years in 1936 for grand larceny of two automobiles. He had also been arrested on several minor charges in Birmingham.

Obeying a city ordinance which requires ex-convicts to register fingerprints when they come to Birmingham, Porter reported to the Fingerprinting Bureau yesterday morning. He told the officer in charge that he intended to "walk the straight and narrow from now on" and gave his address as 1318 North Twenty-First Street.

Officers commended the Negro chauffeur for his role in Porter's apprehension. Mrs. Andrews said Caster had been employed by her family for the past 13 years.

A member of the Andrews family said Mrs. Andrews had suffered no ill effects from yesterday's excitement.

Porter is being held on charge of suspected attempted robbery.

Court Sees That Negro Again Has Leg To Stand On

TUSSIE COLEMAN, Irondale Negro, had his "Sunday cork leg" back Thursday, and Melvin Horace, Negro youth accused of stealing it was bound over to the Grand Jury under $500 bond after his preliminary hearing before Judge H. B. Abernethy.

Horace pleaded guilty to the theft after Coleman testified the artificial limb had been stolen more than a year. Both the prosecuting witness and the defendant have one leg missing.

County Solicitor Cecil Deason, after the hearing was over, handed the leg to Coleman and told him he could wear it this Sunday for the first time in more than a year. The Negro has a peg-leg which he uses during the week. The artificial leg had been held as evidence pending the hearing.

Horace denied stealing the leg with the intentions of wearing it.

Mobile, Ala. Times
August 3, 1939

WHITE, NEGRO GAMBLERS

There are hundreds of small dice games for negroes in white saloons all over New Orleans, and in some of these places the negroes and lower type whites shoot craps together. But the most prominent negro dice establishment is The Fair, located on old Magazine st. and operated by Earl Mertzweiller, another close friend of Mayor Maestri.

Biggest negro gambler in New Orleans, and also reported to be on good terms with Mayor Maestri, is the famous "Mr. Beansie," real name Edgar Fauria, who is so important a figure in the gambling world that he is always accompanied by a white bodyguard Frank Licalzi, alias "Fungi," whose picture is in the police rogues gallery. These two once got into a dispute with a white policeman named Molinary, and when the latter tried to bring charges against them, the district attorney's office suggested that it was wiser, for the policeman's sake, to drop the case.

Brass Knuckles Unlawful, Even For Police Chief

ANNISTON, Ala.—Hobson City, Alabama's only Negro municipality, is without a chief of police—that is, a chief of police on duty. Hobson City's police chief, H. B. Brown, attended a party in West Anniston a few nights ago and his plans were crossed up when he ran afoul of city ordinances in Anniston.

Brown was fined $99 and costs in Police Court Wednesday morning, and because he did not have the cash for a settlement he is working out the fine. Anniston police accused him of having a blackjack and a pair of brass knuckles concealed on his person.

Local Woman Shot By Elmore Negro

Gun Fired On Automobile Following Dispute

DEATSVILLE, ALA., Oct. 17. — A Montgomery woman identified as Mrs. Theodore Lindsey, of 1 Polk Street, was treated here today for shotgun wounds said to have been received from the hands of a negro woman.

The shooting is said to have occurred as the result of an argument between the negro, Rosa Lee Benson, 24, and Mrs. Lindsey, a rural agent for a candy company.

Mrs. Lindsey told police that she and her cousin, James Lindsey, 16, had stopped at the negro's house, between Wetumpka and Deatsville, about 4 p.m., this afternoon, to collect some money the negro owed for merchandise.

An argument followed, it was said, and as the agent and her cousin prepared to drive away the negro woman ran from the house of a neighbor, and fired a shotgun blast through the windshield of the car. The shot took effect in Mrs. Lindsey's face and chest it was said. The youth, uninjured, drove to Deatsville, where physicians said her injuries were not serious.

The negro woman, arrested by Deputies Holley and Hornsby, was committed to the Wetumpka jail last night, and charged with assault with attempt to murder.

Relatives of Mrs. Lindsey said her condition was not serious last night but refused to give other information in the case.

CONVICT'S WIDOW AWARDED $1,500

Board Of Adjustment Okehs Other Compensations

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—(AP)— An award of $1,500 has been authorized by the State Board of Adjustment to the estate of John D. Booker, 22, Negro convict killed while dynamiting stumps near Hamilton.

The $1,500 award, maximum permitted convicts by Alabama law, will be paid according to the workmen's compensation scale—$5 weekly to Booker's widow.

Other awards:

B. F. Fleming, Hartford—$225. A State Highway Department truck rammed him on Commerce Street.

Garfield Gregg—$100. A highway truck killed his mule near Miller's Ferry.

The board recently awarded the estate of J. Rice, Jr., of Montgomery, whose car dived off an open draw bridge at Jacksonville, Ala., $5,500.

Rice's salary and life expectancy were taken into account. The $5,500 will go to support his widow and two children.

The board will meet tomorrow to hear the petition of J. E. Molamphy, president of J. E. Bolamphy & Son, who will come 3,000 miles to explain how fire destroyed a blast furnace while stored at the state docks in Mobile.

Molamphy bought the furnace from Woodward Iron Company in Birmingham. He had it shipped to Mobile for reshipment to Liukokeu Iron Works, Hankow, China.

While awaiting arrival of a ship, fire broke out in the state warehouse. Molamphy says this is what happened to the furnace, which would melt 400 tons of pig iron a day:

". . . The babbit metal flowed out of the bearings. . . . Brass valves were melted. . . . Bronze bearings cracked. . . . Steel parts became annealed. . . ."

NEGROES KILLED FLEEING POLICE

Two Die In Reckless Dash; Child Is Auto Victim

Speeding away from a pursuing police car at a 70-mile per hour clip, two Negroes were killed in East Thomas last night when their car crashed while the death of an 8-year-old girl in another accident sent the day's traffic fatalities to three and pushed the 1939 total to 30.

Those dead were Norma Harris, 25, Negro, of 1518 Fourth Avenue, South; Jack Greenwood, 35, Negro, of 1334 Short Ave., South, and Billy Williams, 8, Negro, of 324 South Twenty-Fifth Street.

Last year's entire total was 62.

Officers said the car in which Greenwood and the Negro woman were riding was "jumped" near Thomas on suspicion that its occupants were violating the liquor law. Following the accident, they said a quantity of corn whisky was found in the car.

The car, said to have been driven by Otis Brown, 30, Negro, of 1214 Fourth Avenue, South, was speeding at approximately 70 m.p.h. when it failed to round a curve on the old Jasper road at Thomas, according to police.

Brown is in a critical condition at Hillman Hospital, and two murder counts have been placed against him. Another occupant, Charlie Taylor, 23, Negro, of 1213 First Alley, South, injured in the accident, escaped at Fourth Avenue and Eighteenth Street, while en route to Hillman Hospital in a Bradford ambulance.

The Williams child died at 8:15 p.m. yesterday at Hillman from injuries suffered when she was struck by an automobile at First Avenue, South, and Thirty-Second Street. The driver of the automobile, J. S. Donovan, 29, of 4336 Tenth Avenue, South, was exonerated by County Investigator Gip M. Evans, who said evidence showed the child ran in front of the car.

Marion, Ala., Standard
September 21, 1939

2 Negroes Are Held In Fire Investigation

Two Negroes, James Bennett and his son, Frank Bennett, were being held in the County Jail for investigation Wednesday in connection with a fire which completely destroyed the Pope's Beat Consolidated School for Negroes last week.

The five-room frame building was insured and was valued by the County Board of Education at approximately $2,500. The blaze affects some 300 pupils, it was announced.

An investigation is being conducted by Deputy State Fire Marshall Thomas in cooperation with Perry County authorities.

Alabaman Freed In Trumped-Up Charge

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—(SNS) The year-long struggle for the freedom of Willie Joe Hart, young Negro share-cropper and youth leader of the United Cannery and Agricultural Workers Union, CIO, reached a dramatic conclusion this week when a Tallapoosa County jury declared him not guilty of the frame-up charge of highway robbery, returning a 15-year sentence against him.

The jury reached this decision after eight hours deliberation, and after hearing testimony in the new trial, granted by the Alabama Court of Appeals.

SERVED TEN MONTHS

Because the union members were unable to raise bond, despite the fact that an appeal was filed a year ago, immediately after the first frame-up verdict, young Hart has served over ten months at the Alabama prison camp at Atmore.

In spite of the overwhelming evidence of the complete innocence of young Hart, the jury in this landlord-ridden county was not willing that Hart should go scot free. Therefore, they included in their decision a verdict of guilty of "assault and battery" carrying a penalty of $71.13 court costs. This amount must be paid by November 5 or young Hart will have to return to the convict gang to work out the court costs.

APPEAL FOR FUNDS

To meet these costs, Richard Linsley, district president of the union, has issued an appeal for funds. Trade unions and individuals are requested to make as large a contribution as possible, sending the money to Mr. Linsley at 1307 S. 15th Street, Birmingham, Ala.

The Hart case was recognized at the very outset as an attack on the union, and especially an attack on Hosie Hart, district leader of the union and father of Willie Joe. At the time of the arrest, Sheriff Corprew made wild threats to Hart about using machine guns against the union members if they continued their activities. The first trial was marked by a physical attack on Defense Attorney Kelton by Corprew.

Young Hart was charged with "highway robbery" after a young Negro woman, Cora Lee, complained that $2 was missing from her purse after she and a party of young people had ridden in an automobile with young Hart. As brought out later, defense witnesses were intimidated and several of the young people were forced to testify falsely against Hart.

INNOCENCE UNCOVERED

Governor Bibb Graves, who was in office until January 1, assigned his ace investigator to the case and evidence confirming the innocence of Hart was uncovered.

Meanwhile, Sheriff Corprew was retired from office and the trial proceeded on a much fairer basis. Former witnesses against Hart repudiated their testimony, and other witnesses for the prosecution became involved in weird contradictions. The assistant attorney general, who prosecuted the case, was unable to get a conviction, even though he attempted to inject the issue of union and "Communism" into the trial.

DISPLEASURE EXPRESSED

Judge Hutton, serving his first term, expressed displeasure at the absence of certain defense witnesses, who, it was rumored, had been warned not to appear. The judge sent deputies for them, and for the first time, Hart had his full quota of witnesses present. Attorneys Page and Milner of Dadeville represented Hart.

"Great significance is attached to this victory," said Linsley, "even though it is a partial victory and even though we must raise $70 before Joe Hart will be completely free. It shows that the sharecroppers and farm laborers, black and white, are determined to stand by their union through thick and thin. It shows that even in the black belt, known for its reactionary attitude towards the Negro people, there are some progressive and fair-minded white people who believe in justice and democracy. Finally, it shows that when the people organize and demand their rights, they can win real victories, regardless of the odds against them. Our union will be strengthened through this struggle and this victory. I want to express our appreciation to the many individuals and organizations that have helped, including locals of the CIO and the A. F. of L., as well as the Farmers Union."

Three Arrested In Beating Of Parker Teacher

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—SNS—Monroe Johnson, Albert McCoy and Wallace Toney were arrested early this week and charged with assault with attempt to murder, in connection with the beating of J. L. Lowe, Parker High School teacher.

The incident grew out of the teacher's calling orders to force the group off the playing field while the school staged a drill during the half time period in the Pearl-Parker High football game played at Legion Field on Monday, October 30. Johnson, McCoy and Wallace are believed to have become incensed and as a result waylaid the unfortunate teacher and administered a severe beating.

WAYLAID TEACHER

The gang is said to have waylaid the unsuspecting teacher and hit him several times with a piece of scantling. After having opened a wide gash in his head they attacked him with fists and "brass knuckles", leaving prostrate the helpless victim, according to reports. Kicked and bruised the instructor, Mr. Lowe, was treated by a doctor in attendance before being permitted to go home.

Monroe Johnson lives at a Green Street address. Wallace Toney gave his address as 709 North 4th Avenue, and Albert McCoy, alias A. C. Cooper, lives at 612 North Second Avenue.

FIRST INCIDENT OF KIND

The attack marked the first flare of rowdyism at Negro games. So excellent has been the conduct that several local daily papers have commented on the fact that few or no occasions of violence had been noted.

J. L. Lowe was attacked while more than five thousand students prepared to leave the game. Few knew of the incident happening in the park until the next day. The school officials were inclined to look upon the incident as an attempt to discredit the school. Several pushed the investigation which resulted in the apprehension of the trio.

Arresting Officers were George and Ratcliffe.

Suspend FSA Official For Beating Negroes

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)— Farm Security administration officials lost no time in dealing with John C. Caine, assistant county rehabilitation supervisor when an investigation conducted by the FSA revealed him guilty of assaulting two Negro FSA rehabilitation borrowers.

The two Negroes, George and Sarah Howard, residing in Dallas county, Alabama, fled the county following the incident which was reported through channels to the Washington office.

Within three days time, the Howards were as far from the scene of the assault as their meager funds would carry them.

However they were located by government agents who saw their condition and promptly moved them to a hospital and arranged for the medical attention they so badly needed.

Meanwhile, the official investigation moved into action and it developed that Caine admitted engaging in a dispute with the two, charging self defense.

On October 23, some dispute arose with the Howards and Caine as the principals. As a result, the two Negroes sustained a beating which necessitated hospital treatment. Afraid and unable to secure attention for themselves, they fled the county.

As a result of the findings of the investigation, Caine has been suspended from office pending decision as to further disciplinary action.

All information obtained by FSA investigators will be turned over to state and federal officials for further investigation.

Negro Celebrants Use Their Knives

Advertiser 12-1-39

Negro celebrants brought to police headquarters for treatment of knife wounds last night numbered four by 10 p.m. The fight victims were listed as: Algie Felder, 26; Earnest Sankey, 22; James Golson, 22; and Randall Moncrief, 24.

Felder who competently carved Sankey and Golson in front of the Fekin Theater about 9:30 o'clock, protested that he was "not a fighting man," but used his knife when he was attacked by both men at once. Felder received his quota of gashes. The trio was arrested by Detective Sgts. D. W. Keener and W. C. Frizzle, and brought to headquarters for treatment by a city physician.

Moncrief, who told police he was mobbed in The Silver Moon, North Court Street, ran into headquarters for treatment and protection, after a knife slashed through his heavy overcoat to his side.

An attending physician said none of the negroes was in a dangerous condition. Felder, Golson, and Sankey were held and charged with fighting.

OUR ALABAMA AND ITS PRISONERS

Members of the State Board of Pardons and Paroles report themselves as deeply gratified at the effects of their first rounds of visits to state prisons where they had heart to heart talks with the inmates. On these visits members of the Board talk to the whole prison body. They explain in simple language the principles and rules of the new system. They assure the inmates that the Board is interested in the welfare of each and every one of them, that it wishes to see justice done each and every one of them, that it wishes to see all of them get a new grip on life, new confidence in themselves while society exacts its toll of their liberties for its own protection.

The Advertiser found itself particularly interested to know how the prisoners so far interviewed feel about the emphatic ruling of the Board that there will be no more Christmas paroles. At each of the prisons so far visited the inmates have been told that there would be no more Christmas paroles. The members carefully explained why this practice has been abandoned. It has been abandoned more in the interest of the prisoners than for any other cause. Yesterday The Advertiser asked the Board how the prisoners received this news. It is assured that the prisoners seemed unanimously pleased.

The Board holds that a prisoner who is worthy of a Christmas parole and conducts himself well while on leave in the midst of temptations without funds, is a good risk for permanent parole. In the very nature of things Christmas paroles must come as special favors, with the result that many inmates whose prison records have been good are overlooked. Unjust discrimination is impossible to avoid. Besides a Christmas parollee is penniless and so in no condition to celebrate the Yuletide. In many instances he is but a charge upon a family that itself is penniless and perhaps living on relief.

The prisoners, it is found, see the reasonableness and fairness of this policy and like it.

Alabama, you should know, has a higher per capita prison population than any other state in the Union and higher than that of any other country, except possibly in those countries where political prisoners are numerous. Our prisons are badly overcrowded. The time came when Alabama had to choose between the establishment of a more enlightened pardon and parole system or the investment of greater outlays of revenue in new housing accommodations. When that time came Alabama chose to establish a better system.

Now it isn't the purpose of the state to release dangerous criminals indiscriminately and irresponsibly in order to ease the pressure on our penal institutions. Naturally the Board will keep uppermost in its mind the primary interests of society. It will not release any prisoner unless convinced that after investigation he is capable of living honestly and in peace with his fellow men. Society must be protected from the natural outlaw, but a great many prison inmates are not by any means natural outlaws. Now under the new system a good parole risk can be released with confidence because he will be under constant surveillance by agents of the state working with the courts. It follows of course that the state is justified in releasing a much larger number of prisoners now than ever before.

Indeed, one member of the Board said to The Advertiser yesterday: "I wish the newspapers would publicize the fact that the Board will welcome applications from responsible citizens who wish to employ those that we release. We find that our prisoners, especially our ~~Negroes,~~ are in great demand by farmers and others. I dare say that we cannot even supply that demand, once it is understood by the public that we are interested in releasing in-

mates that are worthy of parole. You see our Negro prisoners especially have become good workmen. They are accustomed to disciplane. Their morale is high because most of them are in prison either because they were the stooges of vicious white men or because they assaulted or killed impulsively. On the whole they are more tractable than white prisoners. They are much more likely to behave themselves when released, especially if they find employment. Well, we can find employment for all of them that are in good health, and their health is carefully watched over by the State. They are accustomed to good food—indeed we members of the Board have been eating prison rations for several days, and enjoyed them. I know of many farmers who would gladly have any labor that we could send them. I know of one white professional man who'd like to have us provide him with a chauffeur.

"Oh, yes, I anticipated your question! We have already thought of that! We are not going to provide slave labor to any employer. We will not only study the case history of a prisoner before he is released, but we will also study the case history of his prospective employer, and we will check up on both afterwards. No employer of parollees will be permitted to exploit them. These men must be paid honest wages and they must be treated decently. There are many white employers of labor in Alabama who would not be permitted to hire the men we release.

"The reason so many farmers want our men, especially our Negro men, is that the free labor that they are now dependent upon is demoralized by relief projects. Our men will work, free laborers will not—if they can get WPA benefits. Everybody knows that.

"We wish to release a great many men now in our prisons, but we shall not only have a care for the protection of society we shall also have a care for the protection of our men from 'society'."

It is plainly the purpose of the Board to conform to the spirit of the law by taking drastic steps to reduce the unnatural prison population of Alabama, but under conditions that do not prejudice the public interest. Indeed, it is the purpose of the Board to serve the higher interests of the public.

All Alabamians are interested in the progress of the newly created Pardon and Paroles Board, for here is a department of the public service which the people themselves created. They did not originate the idea, but when a thoughtful leadership proposed the idea and recommended it, the people had the sense promptly to accept it and write it into their constitution. This required a popular vote.

We are sure that the people are by now gratified at the wisdom of Governor Dixon in choosing the personnel of the Board that is charged with implementing and administering the new system. Governor Dixon has made many happy appointments, but it seems to The Advertiser that he was especially fortunate when he chose the personnel of the State Board of Pardons and Paroles: Judge Alex Smith, chairman, Mrs. Edwina Mitchell and Judge R. L. Hill, associates. They are wise and humane people; they are not sentimentalists, but they do understand the great principles of modern penology, and they have gone about their labors with a zest and energy that give great promise of a fruitful season for civilization in Alabama.

INDIANA LAW REVAMPS STATE PENAL CODE

Box 123-39 Chicago, Ill.

Negro Legislator Sponsors Bill

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. Nov. 30, (ANP)—As result of important legislation enacted through the efforts of Dr. Marshall A. Talley, former member of the Indiana house of Representatives, that state reportedly leads a'l others in prison rehabilitation and economic self-sufficiency for penal and correctional institutions.

Dr. Ta'ley's bill became a law after passing both branches of the Indiana legislature without opposition. It provides for the classification and grouping of all prisoners in correctional and penal institutions of the state, according to psychological and age identifications for character building and moral and industrial rehabilitation techniques. Thus the punishment emphasis is being minimized in prison life and prisoners are being trained for their return to society.

Purchases Farm Land

Since passage of the law, an 800-acre farm has been purchased by one of the reformatories upon which vast garden crops are grown, which provide practically all the food that is needed. "It is a canning factory," says the Indianapo'is Star, "which has canned over 52,500 gallons of perishable foods this year, and the season is not yet over."

Fine orchards are being developed. large storage rooms are being built, many herds of cattle are being bought and bred, and the milk and dairy products have greatly increased as the result of the passage of this law. Character and citizenship classes are being taught to bring prisoners into the fu'l meaning and responsibilities of life, thus the new law is revolutionizing the prison life of our offenders to society to say nothing of the reduction of the tax burden upon the citizens for the operation of these prison institutions.

Dr. Talley was also the author of several other important measures of social legislation, notably among them being his character education bill for the public system. At the close of his career as a legislator he was appointed by Gov. Clifford M. Townsend as a member of the Indiana Welfare board, which gives him general supervision of the prison life and various welfare projects of the social security act as it applies to that state.

Nationally Known

The preacher-educator like wise occupies several other offices of national service. For seven years he has been the dean of the National Baptist Sunday school and BYPU Congress, the builder of both the five-year and four-year programs or experiments for the advancement of religious education among Negro Baptists. He is also secretary of religious education of the Sunday School Publishing board of the National Baptist convention, of which Dr. A. M. Townsend is the executive secretary.

A pastor of 36 years' experience, Dr. Talley, has built several fine churches; he is author of several books and periodicals and the editor of the Sunday School Informer, a magazine of Christian education. While a member of the Indiana House of Representatives, he sponsored a concurrent memorial from both houses of the legislature and secured its unanimous passage, asking the United States Congress for federal enactment against lynching.

Negro Is Sentenced In Assault Case

Memphis 39

Jonas Allison, 50, Negro, who created a near riot downtown yesterday when he struck Frank Livsey, 55, a sheet metal contractor, with an ax, was fined $100 and sentenced to six months in jail by Judge Martin in Police Court today.

The Negro was charged with assault and battery. Witnesses testified the defendant was collecting scrap wood in the nineteen hundred block of Second Alley, North, and the trouble started when Mr. Livsey ordered him to move on so as not to block trucks bringing materials to the rear door of 1921 Second Alley, North, for construction work.

After the trouble started, a large crowd gathered and the Negro was severely beaten before Officer Ellison rescued him.

CRIME - 1939

ALABAMA

Birmingham, Ala. News
September 25, 1939

$1,500 Award For Widow Of Negro Convict

State Adjustment Board Settles Series Of Claims

9-27-39

The State Board of Adjustment yesterday awarded $1,500 to the widow of Negro Convict John D. Booker, 22, who was blown to smithereens while dynamiting stumps in the State service near Hamilton in Marion County.

The $1,500 was the maximum award permitted by the law for convicts. The money will be paid to Booker's widow according to the scale of the workmen's compensation act—$5 a week for 300 weeks.

Other awards:

B. F. Fleming, of Hartford—$285. A State Highway Department truck struck him on Commerce Street.

Garfield Gregg—$100. A highway truck killed his mule near Miller's Ferry.

The board recently awarded the estate of J. C. Rice, Jr., whose car dived off an open bridge at Jackson, the sum of $5,500.

Rice's salary and life expectancy were taken into account. The $5,500 will go to support his widow and two children.

The board will meet tomorrow to hear the petition of J. E. Molamphy, president of J. E. Molamphy and Son, Oakland, Calif., who will come 3,000 miles to explain just how fire destroyed a blast furnace while stored at the State Docks in Mobile.

Molamphy bought the furnace from Woodward Iron Company in Birmingham. He had it shipped to Mobile for reshipment to Liukokeu Iron Works, Hankow, China.

While awaiting arrival of the bottom a fire broke out in the State warehouse. Molamphy says this is what happened to the furnace, which would melt 400 tons of pig iron a day:

". . . .The babbit metal flowed out of the bearings. . . .brass valves were melted. . . .bronze bearings cracked. . . .steel parts became annealed. . . ."

Open to Conviction

Secretary of State John Brandon, a member of the board, wasn't quite clear on how a blast furnace burns, but said he was open to conviction.

Other members of the board are State Treasurer C. E. McCall and Finance Director Arthur R. Forsyth, chairman. The board has final jurisdiction. It has none where remedy in court may be sought.

Claims totalling $123,181.07 were lodged with the board in the fiscal year ending in 1938. The claims were either trimmed or rejected until only $26,532.67 was shelled out.

The board was created in 1935 by the Legislature because relief could be had only through passage of a bill. The U. S. Government has a corresponding agency in which citizens may seek redress in the U. S. Court of Claims.

An excerpt from the report of the board submitted to former Gov. Graves:

Board Gives Accounting

"The board awarded only $71,898.52 of the $200,000.00 appropriated by the Legislature for the first year. The amount of claims submitted and heard by the board totals $362,497.49, while the total awards amounted to only $71,898.52. Claims pending, not ready for submission, total $87,749.72.

"Special attention is called to the fact that of this $71,898.52, $23,200.00, or approximately one-third thereof, was awarded to the heirs at law or next of kin of the twenty deceased convicts, and $500.00 each to the two surviving convicts, who were burned in the unfortunate occurrence near Scottsboro in January of this year. The board, at the suggestion of the Governor, took immediate cognizance of the liability of the State in these cases.

"The Legislature appropriated $200,000.00 for the awards for the first fiscal year and $50,000.00 each year thereafter.

"From the attached data will be noted the following:

"The Legislature referred to us for determination 76 relief bills totalling $209,358.83.

"Every relief bill has been acted on and awards therein made totalling $32,627.79.

"Thirty relief bills were denied or dismissed, totalling $101,241.24.

"Since the creation of this board additional claims have been received totalling $240,888.38. Additional cases denied or dismissed total $99,202.98. Awards made total $39,270.73. Additional claims pending total $87,749.72.

"Operating expenses of the board total $3,600.55."

TWO MEN JAILED

Father And Son Accused In Burning Of Negro School

MARION, Ala. —(AP)— Two Negroes, James Bennett and his son, Frank Bennett, are being held in the County Jail here for investigation in connection with a fire which destroyed the Pope's Beat Consolidated School for Negroes last week.

The five-room frame building was insured and was valued by the County Board of Education at approximately $2,500. The blaze affects some 300 pupils, it was announced.

An investigation is being conducted by Deputy Fire Marshal Thomas in cooperation with Perry County authorities.

Alabama CIO Leader Wins Freedom After Frameup Verdict

10-28-39

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—(CNA)—The year-long struggle for the freedom of Willie Joe Hart, young sharecropper and leader of the United Cannery and Agricultural Workers Union, CIO, reached a dramatic conclusion this week when a Tallapoosa County jury declared him not guilty of the frame-up charge of highway robbery, reversing a 15-year sentence against the Negro youth.

The jury reached this decision after eight hours deliberation and after hearing testimony in the new trial, granted by the Alabama Court of Appeals.

In spite of the overwhelming evidence of the complete innocence of young Hart, the jury was not willing that Hart should go scot free. Therefore, they included in their decision a verdict of guilty of "assault and battery" carrying a penalty of $71.13 court costs.

The Hart case was recognized at the very outset as an attack on the union. At the time of the arrest, Sheriff Corprew made wild threats to union officials about using machine guns against the union members if they continued their activities.

The first trial was marke by a physical attack on Defense Attorney Kelton by Corprew, and by intimidation of defense witnesses.

In the present trial, Judge Hutton, serving his first term, expressed displeasure at the absence of certain defense witnesses, who, it was rumored, had been warned not to appear.

Patrol Seeks 2 White Men And 5 Negroes

Fugitives From Georgia Prison Escaped In Stolen Car

11-26-39

A Highway Patrol net was thrown out yesterday in an attempt to ensnare seven Georgia convicts who escaped from Albany at 7 a.m. and were thought to be headed for Texas.

Patrol centers dispatched men to the Dothan area and notified all patrolmen of the escape and gave a description of the two whites and five negroes with two pistols among them.

They fled in a black 1936 Chevrolet sedan, license tag No. 73527-C.

The patrol reported no trace of the fugitives, who were listed as:

A. S. ROSS, 25, 150-pounds, 6 feet-1 inch, brown eyes, black hair, vaccination scar on left arm, several moles on back and shoulders.

WALTER TIMMONS, 25, 125 pounds, 5 feet-7 inches, brown eyes, black hair, scar on left ankle. Scar on top of left foot. Small knot between shoulder blades. Life timer.

JAMES GORE, 29, negro, light gingercake color, 151 pounds, 5 feet-8 inches, brown eyes, black hair. Slightly bald. Scar on right shoulder blade. Prominent ears.

ROBERT LEE EDGAR, negro, light gingercake color, 21, 170 pounds, 5 feet-9 inches, brown eyes, black hair, vaccination scar on left arm.

LOUIS JONES, light gingercake color, 29, 151 pounds, 5 feet-8 inches, brown eyes, black hair, slightly bald, scar on shoulder blades. Prominent ears.

EDDIE JOHNSON, light gingercake color, 21, 126 pounds, 5 feet-6 inches, brown eyes, black hair. Vaccination scar on left arm. Scar on right breast. Birthmark on right cheek Scar on wrist.

DAVE CURRY, dark gingercake color, 22, brown eyes, black hair V-shaped scar on left side of chin Scar on back of head.

Escapes Took Car Owned By Deputy

ALBANY, GA., Nov. 25.—(AP)—Georgia and Alabama officers joined in a hunt today for seven convicts who bound their guards and escaped from the Dougherty County prison farm in a four-door automobile owned by Deputy Warden L. B. Herring.

The deputy said he was killing hogs in the farm yard and asked Clayton Smith, a guard to go to the cells and get two negroes to help. When Smith failed to return, Herring went to the jail.

"As I reached the door leading to the cells, the men jumped on me and held a knife to my throat and put a pistol in my ribs. I saw Smith had been bound and gagged and was locked in one of the cells. As I grabbed, one of the men cut me twice on the hand, not seriously."

Herring said the convicts bound him in strips of a sheet and then took his automobile key from Smith.

State highway patrolmen said the fugitives later were seen at Georgetown, Ga., across the line from Eufaula, Ala.

things which we have stated here are facts which no informed man will attempt to dispute. The sociologists, refo. ers, etc., might differ with us, but ask the ma who knows, and he will tell you. Perhaps 90 per cent of the farm negroes of Alabama are as we have stated here. The other 10 per cent have the will-power to impose their own discipline upon themselves, and these 10 per cent, if you ask them, will rise up without a dissenting word and affirm what we have said.

For a good, hard-headed practical example, ask those federal men w.o have to do with the advancing of negroes under the Farm Security Administration. These men have met with notable success, and what is the secret of it? Discipline. The negro, who has been wheedling the ordinary landlord out of everything on which he could get his hands for the past 20 years, has a respect for the federal "guvvinment" which it has for few other people or agencies. It knows that the "guvvinment" will tolerate no foolishness, and that its handouts will cease as soon as the negro begins to do the things the way he wants them done, and not the way the government man wants them done. This is the same discipline which made a success of the negro laborer in the ante-bellum days, and makes him such an excellent prison worker. We repeat, it may not be the way we want things, but facts remain facts.

LABOR MARTYR IS FREED AFTER SERVING YEAR

Framed Because He Tried To Organize Alabama Sharecroppers

By AUGUSTA JACKSON STRONG

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Oct. 27—Willie Joe Hart, young sharecropper, and central figure in last year's "labor martyrdom" case in Alabama, has just been granted his freedom by the courts from a 15 year sentence.

Hart was originally charged with "highway robbery," and had already served a year in Alabama's notorious penal camps at hard labor, when the case was reopened and his release made possible.

The youth, who is barely 20 years old now, was first arrested in Tallapoosa County, Ala., where he was assisting his father, a local union head, with enrolling workers into the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers of the C.I.O.

The county officials have long looked with disfavor on union activities among sharecroppers. In this respect, it should be recalled that Tallapoosa County since 1931 has had a long history, unparalleled in the state, of violent clashes between sharecroppers' unions and white groups deputized by the sheriff to "keep the Negroes in their places."

In previous conflicts there has been blood shed on both sides. Shortly before his son's arrest, Hosea Hart, the father, and other union members had been receiving threats of violence if they continued their activities.

Case Reopened

The charges of "highway robbery" against Willie Joe Hart were based on the statement of a young woman that he had taken $2 from her pocketbook while they were riding together in an automobile with a group of friends.

The Hart case was made a nation-wide issue by the union. After numerous protests, the case was appealed before former Governor Bibb Graves of Alabama who ordered a reopening of the case and special investigations of the facts surrounding it.

At the second trial witnesses who had formerly testified for the state against Hart stated that they had been forced by threats to take the stand and swear falsely.

Witnesses Afraid

Other local witnesses, who said that they had not testified in the first trial because they were afraid for their lives, were brought into court by special deputies to speak in Hart's favor.

After a day of deliberation on the new evidence an all-white jury found young Hart "not guilty," thus freeing him from a 15-year penalty, on a trumped-up charge.

He is being held, however, on a minor charge for which he was fined the court costs of $71. As soon as his union and friends raise this sum he will leave the prison camp again a free man.

"WIFE-SWAPPING" TRIO HELD GUILTY IN BIGAMY TRIAL

Mates, Land And Children Exchanged, Jury Told; Appeal Is Likely

BY W. M. HINDS
Birmingham News Staff Writer

RUSSELLVILLE, Ala.—Guilty of bigamy was the verdict of a jury here in the case of two men and a woman in Alabama's "wife-swapping" case and today the defendants awaited the decision of trial Judge G. H. Almon as to how long they must serve in prison for changing mates in Red Bay, Ala., last Spring.

The jury returned the verdict late yesterday after deliberating about an hour and a half and after they had been charged by the trial judge that if they believed the two couples had lived as man and wife at Red Bay after an Alabama divorce and a Mississippi re-marriage on the same day the jury should find them guilty as charged in the indictment.

Found guilty yesterday by the 11-man jury were W. D. Johnson, F. O'Dell Brand and Mrs. Della Brand, who became Mrs. Johnson No. 2 in the wife swapping deal. Mrs. Annie Fay Johnson, who became Mrs. Brand No. 2, at the beginning of the trial agreed to plead guilty to the bigamy charge at the next term of court and became a witness for the state.

The state charged the Johnson couple and the Brand couple had obtained divorces in Franklin County, Alabama, and on the same day had gone to Fulton, Miss., and remarried—Johnson marrying Mrs. Della Brand, and Brand, a WPA worker, marrying Mrs. Johnson.

While the divorce decrees banned both women from remarrying within 60 days from the granting of the divorce, both men were banned from remarrying without express permission from a competent court. The state charged that even though the second marriages were contracted outside the state the prohibition within the state of Alabama against remarriage was operative and that the couples had committed bigamy.

The case attracted international attention, at least one account of the "wife-swapping" having been carried in a newspaper in Paris, France.

On the witness stand it developed Johnson had deeded his first wife a 215-acre farm in Mississippi but that the land tract was "heavily mortgaged." Johnson also agreed to keep and support his own two children plus the eldest two of the Brand brood of five. The three "least" of the Brand children were to remain with their father and their new stepmother under the terms of the "wife-swapping" agreement, it developed on the witness stand. Earlier published stories that a mule was included in the "boot" were not confirmed on the witness stand.

The defense, with Atty. J. Foy Guin as chief, contended that the Alabama divorce decree abolished the original marriages immediately it was granted and that under the law the prohibition as to remarriage did not extend beyond the borders of the state. The defense contended the Mississippi marriage was legal in that state and should be considered legal in Alabama.

The two-day trial was heard by an audience that filled the courtroom to the doors. In the early stages of the trial the spectators were mostly men.

While it took only about four hours to present the testimony, the trial dragged along for two days, most of the time being taken up by arguments between attorneys as to the legal points involved.

Arguments before the jury took an unusual turn when Atty. Guin made a plea for his clients by pointing to frequent Hollywood divorces and remarriage and declared "there is not one set of laws in America for the rich and another set for the poor." He urged the jury to consider the people who "wear white shirts, dollar neckties, store clothes, who have slick hair and money in their pockets," before finding the defendants guilty.

Rising to answer Atty. Guin, Circuit Solicitor R. A. Simpson pointed to Guin's unusual delivery in speaking—a way of speaking slowly with each word standing almost by itself.

"Mr. Guin has 'lasses on his tongue," Simpson declared. "He's the sort of a man who will stand with you beneath your apple tree and talk to you all afternoon and when evening comes you'll find he owns the apples all the way to the top of the tree," Simpson declared while the jury and the audience laughed.

Atty. Guin indicated the case would be appealed to the Supreme Court.

Tuscaloosa, Ala., News
December 15, 1939

Discipline And The Negro

A FEW days ago, The Montgomery Advertiser had a highly significant editorial on the prisons of Alabama, with particular emphasis on the new pardon and parole system which we have instituted. This newspaper reprinted that editorial, but we would like to call your attention again to one paragraph. After explaining that the members of the new board have found that prison life instills discipline and reliability into convicts of basically sound character, The Advertiser quotes one of the state officials as saying:

"The reason why so many farmers want our men, especially our negro men, is that the free labor they are now dependent upon is demoralized by relief projects. Our men will work, free laborers will not—if they can get WPA benefits. Everybody knows that."

All of which brings us down to another point. The South prospered and grew rich prior to the War Between the States. It did it on slave labor. Since the War Between the States, the agricultural economy of the South has grown sick almost unto death.

During the ante-bellum days, the average negro had better clothes, a better home and far more food than he now has. The answer to this is discipline. During the ante-bellum days, the negro was not allowed to idle. Like the negro of the 1939 prison, he had to work, and as a result he became a good producer.

The negro of today is under no such discipline, and the result is that during the past three-quarters of a century he has become converted from an economic asset into an economic liability. The average negro in the South today does not produce as much as he consumes. We can point to dozens, scores, hundreds who don't have two bales of cotton and ten bushels of corn to show for the work of an entire year.

We are not interested in causes or theories, or anything like that. And don't get us wrong on this score—we're not advocating any return to a system of forced labor. If the negro can do no work, and get by with it, then it's all right with us. We admire him for his cleverness. But we still believe in facing the facts and these

Birmingham, Ala. News
March 30, 1939

NEED FOR WOMAN'S PRISON EMPHASIZED

Assistant Attorney General Stresses Importance Of Segregation

Need for a prison for women which would permit segregation of Negro and white prisoners was stressed this morning by Mrs. Edwina Mitchell, assistant attorney general, before Alabama clubwomen at Tutwiler Hotel.

Mrs. Mitchell, whose special duties have to do with prisons and paroles, also urged that prisoners entering penitentiaries be classified as to special talents and trained for jobs that would enable them to live without crime after leaving prison.

She pointed out, however, that housing was the greatest problem confronting prison and parole officials.

"Lack of housing for prisoners is the fault of all of us," she admitted, adding, "we simply must have more room.

"Kilby Prison was built for 1,000 prisoners and houses 1,600; Speigner was built for 1,000 and houses 1,700; Atmore was built for 700 and houses 1,580; No. 4 was built for 304 and houses 604, and Wetumpka was built for 170 and houses 376."

Other speakers on the problem of crime prevention included Eugene Connor, commissioner of public safety; Eddie Lyons, police instructor, University of Alabama vocational training; Judge J. Fritz Thompson; Sheriff Harry E. Smith and Solicitor George Lewis Bailes.

Connor called attention to an amendment pending in the Legislature which would bring reforms in the state parole system, saying that it was almost identical with one he twice introduced into the Legislature and saw it "referred to the stove committee."

Sheriff Smith, who ordered "honky-tonks" to close at midnight shortly after he took office, declared that 18 and 19-year-old youngsters "should be home and in bed after midnight and in church on Sundays."

"I fear," said Judge Thompson, "that our educational systems have fallen down. Our schools arouse ambition in students and our economic system does not give them the means to realize their ambitions I still say we have the best economic system on the face of the earth but we should strive to make it work better."

URGES SEGREGATION — Mrs. Edwina Mitchell (above), assistant attorney general of Alabama, today told Alabama clubwomen at Tutwiler Hotel that a new women's prison was needed so that Negro and white prisoners could be segregated.

Solicitor Bailes listed as the chief causes of crime, a lack of education, alcohol, broken homes, poverty and sentimentalism. The remedies, he said, were good home life, good schooling and church organizations that work with youngsters.

The Alabama Council of Democratic Clubs passed a resolution, offerred by Mrs. Morel Montgomery, pledging "wholehearted and sympathetic cooperation with law enforcement bodies in their effort to curb crime, and to work for a system of prison discipline and parole reform and rehabilitation of the prison population."

The Jefferson County Democratic Club commended County Commissioner Henry Sweet for his work in abolishing flogging of prisoners and the Alabama Women's Democratic Club commended the county commissioners and the sheriff for their work along the same line.

The Democratic Club of Birmingham asked that county commissioners be allowed to serve their terms before a proposed system for specifying certain duties to each is placed in effect. The League for Decency in Government asked that the bill be dropped and the commissioners be allowed to serve their terms as they were elected to serve.

Birmingham, Ala. News
April 6, 1939

BURGLAR SLUGS WATCHMAN HERE

Other Crimes Increase In Wave That Follows Period Of Quiet

After several days of comparative quiet, yeggmen and burglars renewed their activities in the city last night with apparent vigor. burglarizing a safe, slugging a night watchman and stealing contents of a window downtown.

Will Moten, Negro night watchman for the Harris Transfer Company with offices at Twelfth Street and First Avenue, South, was struck down last night by a burglar, who took the night watchman's pistol and fled without obtaining any other loot, according to police reports. Entrance was gained through a rear door.

O. H. Hamilton, a night watchman at a nearby building, told City Detectives Giles and Alexander he saw a slender Negro leave the transfer company warehouse and offices shortly after the night watchman there had been attacked.

Mrs. W. H. Perkins, operator of a combined store and restaurant at 815 Finley Avenue, North, reported to police yeggmen entered the place by boring a hole through a rear door, knocked the combination from the safe and took between $30 and $50 in cash and cigarets and tobacco. Officers Hilsman and Prier investigated.

When Dave Alper, operator of the Alper Jewelry Company at 1913 Second Avenue, North, in the heart of the downtown section, opened for business this morning he found a plate glass window in front of the store had been broken and eight or nine watches taken. Police said there was a possibility the window had been broken by the heavy wind last night or by a thief using some heavy instrument.

John B. Prudy, 1224 South Twentieth Street, reported burglars who entered his place through the front door early this morning took $30 in cash.

Greenville, Ala., Advocate
March 30, 1939

"DROPPING THE PIGEON"

A colored woman living out a few miles from Greenville was fleeced of $80.50 in cash and two big home-cured hams one day last week. The old racket worked. Two Negro women and a man called at her house, and after offering her a job, offered to bring her to town to be interviewed by their employer. The man pretended to find a large sum of money, and half interest in the money was offered to the victim, who drew her savings from the bank and hams from her smoke-house. Now she has nothing but the valuable experience.

Why is it that this same old racket, called by the colored population, "dropping the pigeon" keeps on working? Why can't people who are about to be fleeced by such schemes ask advice before turning over their money?

Birmingham, Ala, Post
April 5, 1939

VIOLENCE PLACES FOUR IN HOSPITAL

Negro Shot By Officer In Bessemer; Trio Hurt

Four Negroes were hurt in violence last night. Hillman Hospital listed two victims of shootings, one of stabbing, and one of slugging.

Joshua Hurshaw of 2112 Sixth-av, Bessemer, was shot in the abdomen and right leg and was in critical condition. Nurses were told by Bessemer police that Hurshaw was shot by Officer Elmer Lipscomb when he resisted arrest.

Mary Ann Knot, 2317 Fourth-av, s, was in grave condition with a bullet wound in the chest. Detectives are seeking another Negro woman as her assailant.

Eva Lou Mackey, 205 Second-av, s, was admitted with a cerebrial concussion after being hit at her home. George Rogers, 110 23rd-st, s, was stabbed in the back. No arrests were made in any of the cases.

Forum Of The People

"LAWS AND THE NEGRO"

To Editor, The Age-Herald:

I have just read with genuine pleasure your editorial in Wednesday's issue entitled, "The Negro and the Law," and wish to thank you for this manifestation of treatment procedure in our behavior problems among ourselves.

Birmingham is besprinkled with degeneracy today because men who committed major crimes against members of our own group were either allowed to go "scot free" or were only given a light fine because no white man was involved. In many cases these egotistic offenders no doubt develop into desperate criminals on just that very score. Again thanking you for this fine editorial.

JOHN W. MITCHELL.
Secretary Colored Division, Stockham Branch Y. M. C. A., East Birmingham, Alabama.

Luverne, Ala., Journal
April 5, 1939

We regret to have to use our influence and the influence of our paper against two members of the colored race in our county, but such crimes must be checked in this county at once. This negro should thank his God that Dr. Gardner did not kill him. The car in which this negro was stuck in the mud, and Dr. Gardner offered to help them out, as we learn, and this buck requested a ride with Dr. Gardner to Luverne, which was granted, then the negro pulled a gun and attempted to rob Dr. Gardner. Dr. Gardner wrenched the gun from the negro and the negro was turned over to the sheriff. It was learned that the gun belonged to another negro, and requested this negro to rob Dr. Gardner. The negro who attempted the robbery with a gun should be electrocuted and the other sent up for life. The good negro citizens of this county do not endorse this crime, and want them severely punished We don't want any more crimes like this one, which is a reflection on our negro population. As a general thing, the colored population of this county are law abiding, but such acts as this will bring about trouble between the white and the blacks.

After Midnight

BY THE POLICE REPORTER

WITH tears streaming down his face, the Negro boy—he appeared to be about 10 years old—told his story to the captain at police headquarters.

"I—I—I was going to buy some new shoes wi . . . "

"Come on, pull yourself together," said Capt. H. V. Early.

The Negro boy wiped his eyes and told the captain how hard he had worked that day to earn his $1.80 shining shoes and how he had planned to buy new shoes with it.

"An'—an' they—the other three shine boys—they ganged up on me an' took $1.20 away from me," he sobbed.

The captain looked at his shabby clothes, noted that the soles were practically worn off the boy's shoes. He told the boy to locate the thieving shine boys and report back later.

Some time later, Officers M. R. Kirkland and C. H. Prescott hastened to the bus terminal to pick up the three boys. They were gone when the officers arrived.

The shine boy tearfully began to look for customers again to make up for his loss. A man near the station gave in to the boy's tearful "Shine, Mister?" and put his foot on the wooden shine box.

"What's the matter, boy?" he asked the sniffling boy.

When he had heard the story, the man stepped away with the statement, "Well, maybe you'll learn not to tell how much money you have."

The shine boy smiled. Instead of the usual dime, a dollar bill had been thrust in his hand.

After Midnight

BY THE POLICE REPORTER

IN THE eyes of policemen, he was typical of the adolescent Negro boys picked up daily for petty thievery.

His innocent mien and attitude of bewilderment would have led many a casual observer to the belief that he had no part in crime. But officers questioning him were certain he had stolen a costly wrist watch.

"All right, boy, cough it up," said one officer.

"Sho' 'nuff, Mistah Offisuh, Ah didn't get it," pleaded the youth, who appeared to be about 14 years old.

"Listen, boy," said another officer in kinder tones, taking on an attitude of benevolence, "if you tell us all about it now, it will be easier on you. If you don't . . ." he whispered something into the boy's ear.

"Ah didn' take nothin', boss, honest," the frightened Negro persisted tearfully.

As the officers were about to take him away, Sergt. W. A. Boone approached.

"What do you have him for?"

It seemed that a woman had reported she missed a wrist watch from her porch the afternoon before when she came back to the house. She said she suspected the Negro boy who was working for her, because he went home complaining of a headache right after that.

"Turn him loose," said the sergeant. "The woman just called in that she found the watch at another place where she had left it."

It was like witnessing a sunrise to see the boy's face brighten as he was turned loose.

Birmingham, Ala. News
April 23, 1939

EX-OFFICIAL INDICTED

Former Tuskegee Clerk And Treasurer Accused Of Embezzlement

TUSKEGEE, Ala.—J. D. Randall former city clerk and treasurer of Tuskegee, was indicted Friday by a Macon County Grand Jury on charges of embezzling approximately $11,000 of city funds. Mr. Randall's trial has been set for next Friday.

The criminal division of Circuit Court will convene Monday and will be in session through Friday, with Judge W. B. Bowling, of Lafayette, presiding. Circuit Solicitor Charlie Moon will represent the state, assisted by Deputy Solicitor W. C. Hare. A heavy docket is slated, the Grand Jury having returned 53 indictments. A number of cattle-stealing trials have been set for Tuesday.

Mobile, Ala., Press
April 21, 1939

Three Slightly Hurt By Mysterious Shot

A mysterious shotgun blast into a group of colored people Thursday night at Ann and Short Camp streets resulted in three of them being slightly injured.

Those injured were: Bessie Stallsworth, 14, 213 North Ann Street; D Stallsworth, 1301 Short Camp Street and Will McGowan, 209 North Ann Street. The Stallsworth girl was given treatment at the City Hospital and later dismissed. The others' injuries did not require medical attention.

City Detectives Tony Franco and Charles Burton, who investigated said the shot came from somewhere on Short Camp Street. None of the group saw who fired the blast, the officers reported.

Student Is Struck By Policeman

Unrest Follows Shooting Of White Robber

TALLADEGA, Ala.—(A N P)—Race relations in this peaceful little Alabama area where Talladega college is located have been a bit strained in recent weeks, but school and city officials are hoping for an early return to normalcy.

The current unrest began some months ago when a white man endeavored to rob the comptroller's office. The school's night watchman caught him after shooting the intruder in the leg. White people about the town, a small village near the school, were a bit indignant about the shooting, even though the police department backed the watchman. There was some talking about blowing up one of the buildings. A little later the barn belonging to the college did burn down rather mysteriously, causing some thousands of dollars worth of damage. There was no evidence pointing to the origin of the fire.

Then two weeks ago, there was a bit of disturbance at the local theatre, which has a section for its colored patrons. Because of the tension, the girls were not allowed to attend this particular show because it was a midnight performance, but a few college boys went. A little fracas arose between the colored and white crowds, composed almost entirely of townsfolk. A college boy was struck by the police and the boy fell back on a white woman knocking her nearly under a car.

The student body talked the situation over and at present is refraining from attending the theatre. Any disturbance in the economic relationships between the school and the town, which gets a good deal of its patronage from the institution normally, merely accentuates whatever feeling exists. The mayor and chief of police have been out to talk with President Gallagher. For a time a few students were apprehensive. The situation seems to be quieting down, however, and it is hoped will soon blow over.

Birmingham, Ala. News
April 26, 1939

It Was Wooden Trick This Wood Pulled All Right

John Wood No. 1, Negro veteran of the World War, had to go to the government hospital at Tuskegee for treatment more than a year ago. While there he met John Wood No. 2, who was drawing a pension of $30 a month.

Right then No. 1 conceived the idea of getting hold of some easy money, so he swiped several letters from No. 2's correspondence file, and took the latter's serial number from them. When he got back home near Anniston, he wrote the Veterans Administration, posing as No. 2 and asked that his pension check be sent to a new address.

One check arrived and No. 1 cashed it. Then he was apprehended, because No. 2 squeaked. A Federal Grand Jury indicted No. 1 for forgery and he went to jail.

That was 351 days ago, and John Wood No. 1 came to trial before Federal Judge Murphree yesterday afternoon with that many days of incarceration behind him. To make matters worse, he was convicted, and May 4 he will get an idea how many more days in jail he has ahead of him.

Court attaches said the reason for his long incarceration is that court is held infrequently at Anniston and this was an Anniston case. It was transferred here in order to ease John Wood No. 1's pain in case the jury thought he actually did do what the indictment said And that's just what it did think

Birmingham, Ala. News
June 26, 1939

TWO MORE GO TO JAIL FOR POLICY

Two more Negroes were sentenced to the City Jail today by Circuit Judge J. Edgar Bowron after an attempt to settle 40 pending lottery cases, appealed from City Court, had collapsed.

Thirteen Negroes went to jail Saturday when they could not pay fines and costs imposed on them after they had pleaded guilty before Judge Bowron.

The Negroes who went to jail today were Joe Norwood, assessed $73 in fines and costs, and Ella Lanier, assessed $70.

A lottery case against J. Paul Shelton, white youth, was passed until tomorrow to permit him to pay a fine of $50 and costs of $18.85.

Cases against three other Negroes were continued. Policy operators had made overtures to settle the 40-odd cases for $1,500, but City Commissioner Connor instructed Asst. City Atty. Ralph Parker not to enter into such an agreement, despite the fact that all policy operations reportedly have been closed in Birmingham.

An Arkansas 'Scottsboro'

• Two innocent Negro boys — Bubbles Clayton and Jim Carruthers—are in grave peril of a "legal" lynching down in Arkansas. Unless the conscience of the country is aroused, and the broadest and most immediate protests are sent to Gov. Carl E. Bailey, they will be executed June 30.

Their case—known as the "Blythville" case—is one of the most hideous frame-ups since the shame of Scottsboro first took place in 1931. It follows closely the same lynch pattern. The boys were "picked up" back in 1935, slapped into jail, where they have remained tortured until now.

They were charged with shooting a county sheriff; but this flopped though the foulest third-degree methods were used on them. Then they were charged with "rape," the old fascist lynch-inciting slander against the Negro people. The whole thing was cooked up when the Arkansas landlords let loose a special reign of terror against Negro and white sharecroppers, trying to smash their developing unity and organizational activities. Daily Worker

Here is another example showing not only the necessity for the passage of the federal anti-lynching bill, but for action to enforce all of the constitutional rights of the Negro Americans. The Department of Justice, under Attorney General Murphy, is already investigating the Klan Terror against Negroes who recently voted in Miami, Florida. The Blythville case—and all similar ones—should also be thoroughly sifted. 6-24-39

Meantime, labor and progressives—all fair-minded people—should wire Gov. Bailey, at Little Rock, Ark., urging an immediate stay of execution and freedom for the boys. Every aid ought to be given the Joint Action Committee to Save the Blythville Boys at Mena, Arkansas. To prevent this crime is to spur the whole democratic movement in the South and nationally.

Must Stay In Prison 21 Years

Defended Kid Sister On Ark. Farm

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — (CNA)—Two youths, Mose and Rome Bone, were sentenced here this week to serve 21 years in the penitentiary for defending their kid sister against the attacks of a white plantation boss, John Deaver. Daily Worker 6-24-39

The two brothers were picking cotton on the Miller Plantation at Rose City, near here, when Deaver threatened to kick their little sister, Ernestine, because she had picked cotton with trash in it. Rome, who is 25 years old told Deaver not to molest his sister and requested that they be paid off.

Both of the boys testified on the witness stand that Deaver told them "not to get smart with him and that he "would kill 25 or 30 of you d__s. b__s." Deaver then got his gun from a table nearby where his wife was keeping weights and guarding money for a payroll. He pointed the gun at Mose who was in a truck unloading cotton.

When Rome saw the gun pointed at his brother, he pleaded with Deaver "not to kill my brother. Pay us off and we will go home."

ATTACKS YOUTHS

Deaver then turned on Rome and struck him on the jaw with the butt of the gun and told him to keep his mouth shut or he would shoot. Seeing his brother in deadly peril, Mose jumped off the truck and landed on Deaver's shoulders, forcing him to the ground.

Mrs. Deaver called on her husband to stop the fight. As the fight continued, she rushed over to part the men. When she stooped over, the gun accidentally discharged killing her on the spot.

At the first trial, a jury sentenced Rome to death and Mose to 21 years in the state penitentiary. The case was appealed to the State Supreme Court on the ground that no Negroes had been summoned to serve on the jury.

The appeal was handled by Scipio A. Jones, prominent Negro lawyer.

When the case came up for retrial this week, both of the boys were sentenced to serve 21 years

CANADA TO DEPORT CONVICT WHO ISSUED $145,900,000 NOTES

11-9-39

OTTAWA, Ont., Nov. 8 (AP).—Cary Burns, 53 years old, a Negro convicted of conspiracy to defraud, will be deported to Chicago on Friday when his 14 month sentence expires here, police said today. Burns has spent his entire sentence in a hospital recovering from an illness.

During his trial, police said evidence showed he had issued promissory notes totaling $145,900,000.

Burns is said to have issued notes to Canadians and Americans, including Illinoisans, at the rate of $1 cash for $1,000 promised. Payment was conditioned on successful outcome of suits against infringers of patents he said he had inherited. The trial disclosed that his litigation was a myth.

Narcotics Blamed For Negro Crimes

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP) Young Negroes, introduced to the use of narcotics, especially heroin are committing more and more crimes, says Dr. James A. Nolan, managing director of the Washington Criminal Justice Association, in a report on the crime situation in the district for the first six months of 1939.

Basing his statement on a survey made by the association of drug addicts committed to jail during the last six months, Dr. Nolan reported it was found that 63.2 per cent of the drug addicts were under 25 years of age when arrested.

Of this number Negroes constituted 80 per cent.

Increased activity of federal narcotic agents in the district is another indication that the illicit traffic in drugs has become more acute in Washington in recent months.

"With better control of the influx of narcotics into Washington, and with more adequate sentences for narcotic peddlers,' 'the report stated, "it is to be assumed that crimes of violence and burglaries will be decreased."

Colored Bandit Robs Girl Clerk

An armed, colored bandit late yesterday held up Miss Mildred Parks, 22, clerk in an ice cream store at 112 H street northwest, taking $10 from the cash register.

Miss Parks, who lives at 108 Fifth street southeast, told police the bandit brandished a revolver at her.

Gainesville, Fla Sun
February 1, 1939

Wholesale Chicken Stealing Believed Checked With Arrest Of Two Negroes

Pair Caught With Over 200 Fowls In Their Possession

Sheriff J. P. Ramsey said today he believed he had broken a "wholesale" chicken stealing racket in this section with the arrest of two negroes here last night.

Ramsey said the negroes, listed as Robert Bryant and "Micanopy" James Cox were taken into custody about 2 a.m. this morning several miles north of Gainesville with over 200 chickens in their possession.

The negroes, Ramsey said, admitted the theft of the fowls from the Bordener Chicken Farm, near Paradise. The sheriff said the two negroes had also admitted five different jobs of chicken stealing in the past three months.

According to the sheriff the two negroes were captured with the chickens while they were being transported in two large sacks in an automobile.

The negroes, the sheriff said had been disposing of the chickens by peddling them from house-to-house in the negro sections of Gainesville.

The arrest of the two negroes follows a long period of investigation by officers in the sheriff's office. Complaints, they reported, had been received from time to time from various sections in and around Gainesville.

Ramsey intimated the number of chickens stolen during the past few months would total between five and six hundred.

Deputies Fred Holloman and Fred Sexton assisted Ramsey in the investigations and the arrest.

Ft. Pierce, Fla., News & Tribune
February 10, 1939

THE McCALL CASE

The latest move of the McCall defense forces in seeking to save the kidnaper of little "Skeegie" Cash from the punishment he so justly deserves comes as somewhat of a shock to believers in law and order who thought that the prevention of a bloody South Florida lynching would be followed by the speedy execution of the laws of Florida, says the Sanford Herald.

It was nearly six months ago that the little Princeton child was kidnaped. McCall was speedily apprehended through the efficient co-operation of federal G-Men and local deputies, and brought to trial. He promptly pleaded guilty, a fact which of course did away with the necessity of a jury trial. And in accordance with the law was promptly sentenced to death on June 16.

McCall has been languishing in the State prison ever since. Though the date o fhis execution was set, it was shortly afterward cancelled by an appeal to the Supreme Court. Now the defense is seeking a new trial on the grounds that even though McCall did plead guilty, he should have had a jury to decide whether or not he was guilty.

Of course, all this legal maneuvering is merely to delay the proper execution of the law and to prevent justice being done. There isn't the slightest doubt about McCall's guilt. We may not agree that the electric chair is the best means of disposing of such a criminal, but that is what the laws of Florida provide.

The trouble is that McCall belongs to a politically prominent North Florida family, and the crime of which he is guilty occurred in a remote part of South Florida. He has now been removed far from the scene of his atrocious crime and far from the influence of the friends of the aggrieved parents. Already those who were interested in seeing justice done have nearly forgotten the case; those now interested in it are trying to save the life of a murderer.

If the matter can be pingponged long enough in the courts then it will be an easy matter to secure a pardon for him.

St. Petersburg, Fla. Times
February 21, 1939

Taken to County Jail

Dr. Robert A. M. Benton, local negro physician, who was bound over to circuit court under $2,500 bond Feb. 11 by Magistrate John T. Fisher on a charge of obtaining narcotics contrary to Florida law, was taken to the county jail at Clearwater yesterday to await trial. Since his arrest he had been under treatment at Mercy hospital.

Jacksonville, Fla. Times-Union
April 27, 1939

Jurors Indict Twenty-Three For Extortion

CLEVELAND, April 26, (AP)—Police squads toured Cleveland tonight to round up 23 men indicted on extortion charges by a grand jury ordered to investigate "racketeers and muscle men" in Cleveland's lucrative numbers games.

Authorities estimated drawings flourishing in Cleveland's negro districts have returned their operators $5,000,000 a year. Numbers game warfare between rival operators was blamed for six killings here since 1931.

Close guard was placed on six secret key witnesses. "We want them where no one can reach them, and where there can be no reprisals," declared Eliot Ness, city safety director who as an alcohol tax unit helped send Al Capone to prison.

Solly Hart, now serving a life term for the Youngstown murder of Roy "Happy" Marion, and two others once convicted of murder were among those indicted. All are from Cleveland.

"Big Angelo" Leonardo, whose father and three uncles were slain in the prohibition era, "Little Angelo" Scerria and seven others were charged with extorting $4,000 from Oscar Williams, policy game operator. "Big Angelo" and Domanic Sospirato, also indicted, were once convicted of murder, but found innocent after winning new trials.

Others were named as attempted extortionists. Six were quickly located and lodged in jail cells, awaiting arrangement.

Only after a year's patient persuation did all the 75-odd witnesses give up their reluctance to testify, said Ness, who conducted the investigation leading to the county grand jury's report today.

"We are interested in getting large numbers of witnesses, so no single individual could be blamed by his enemies," he declared. "It was a matter of safety in numbers."

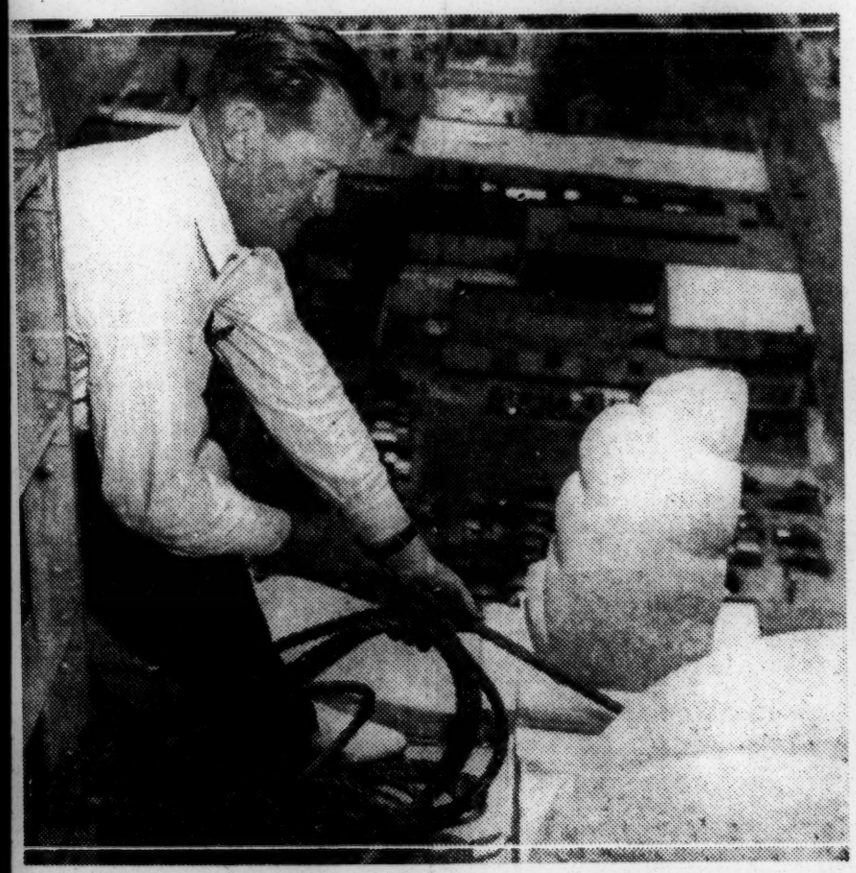
Foils White Bandit

Atlanta Wolf
Atlanta Ga.
1939

Thornton W. Roberts, young Gainesville, Fla., businessman whose bravery thwarted a holdup of a dime store in his town last week. The white bandit had the manager, clerks and patrons covered when Roberts dashed from in back of a counter to overpower the man and wrench his gun away. He is a brother of Ric Roberts of Atlanta.

Miami, Fla. Herald
June 21, 1939

Nude Prisoner Slides Down Rope 24 Stories To Freedom



LIFE LINE TO FREEDOM, used by a negro prisoner, was discovered Tuesday less than 24 hours after two bandits in the jail had been foiled in their efforts to saw their way out of their cell. Deputy Ray Mills is seen pulling the rope up from where it dangled over the twenty-fourth floor ledge to the street below. The 300-foot line is seen suspended down the side of the skyscraper courthouse at the northwest corner.

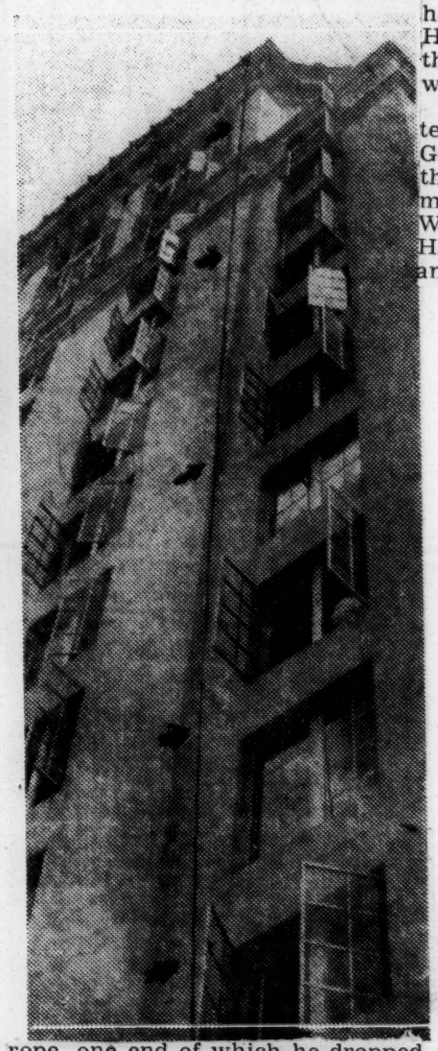
Makes Key From Spoon To Open Window, Then Walks On Ledge To Point From Which He Began Descent To Street; Fled From Courtroom

A nude negro slid 24 floors down a rope hanging from the nearly white courthouse early Tuesday to escape from the county jail, Sheriff D. C. Coleman reported after completing his investigation into the second jail breaking disturbance in 24 hours.

The fugitive is Neville Roberts, also known as Riley W. Walker, 20, who was convicted in Judge Ben C. Willard's court on June 14 of armed robbery and sentenced to eight years in the state prison.

On the day of his conviction the negro broke from the courtroom and ran from the courthouse. He was recaptured eight minutes later by police in the negro section.

Sheriff Coleman said that the negro apparently had observed painters at work outside the jail section and knew they had the rope, and where they left it. He converted a spoon into a key with which he unlocked his cell window. This permitted him to crawl to the ledge on which he walked nearly half way around the building to the



rope, one end of which he dropped to the ground after fastening the other.

Left His Clothes

Before leaving his cell he took off his jail garb, which remained in his cell. When he reached the sidewalk, on the northwest corner he was near the door to the lavatory for negroes. Sheriff Coleman believes confederates had clothing concealed there for him.

The negro's escape was discovered at 2 a. m. Tuesday by an assistant night warden, H. L. Knaup.

He found a 300-foot rope dangling from the twenty-fourth floor cell block level of the prison tower to the ground below as he and his superior, Chris Switzer, night warden, made their customary early morning checkup.

Coleman announced he had established the fact one of the eight hacksaws found Tuesday in the hands of George Haynes and Ralph Stalvey, desperate bandits sentenced to serve long penitentiary terms, had been smuggled into the jail by Haynes upon his entrance. The thin steel-cutting blade had been hidden in a truss which Haynes wears, Coleman disclosed. But how the other seven saws got into their hands still remained unanswered. Haynes was caught sawing his way through a ventilator in his cell which he occupied with Stalvey.

Stalvey and Haynes, under sentence for the holdup of the Coral Gables city hall bus cashier and the theft of $250, were denied a motion for a new trial by Judge Willard in Criminal court Tuesday. Haynes is under 20 years' sentence and Stalvey under one of 25 years.

Sees 'White-Collar Criminals' Costliest to Country's Morale

Sociologist Speaker Hits Suave Deception of Captains of Industry

"White-collar criminals"—business and professional men who commit business crimes—are relatively immune from conviction because of the "class bias of the courts and the power of their class to influence the implementation of the law."

But this type of criminal should be equally liable under the laws with members of the so-called "criminal class" for two reasons: First, the financial cost of white-collar crime is probably several times the cost of the crime "customarily" regarded as the crime problem, and, second, the white-collar crime produces social disorganization on a larger scale than other crimes.

Those opinions were expressed by Dr. Edwin H. Sutherland in a scathing denunciation of "white-collar criminality" in an address last night as retiring president of the American Sociological Society.

Dr. Sutherland, of the University of Indiana, spoke at a joint meeting of his society and the American Economic Society in the Benjamin Franklin. Both groups are members of the Allied Social Science Associations, meeting in convention here this week.

Introduced by Gates

The speaker was introduced by the presiding officer, Dr. Thomas S. Gates, president of the University of Pennsylvania.

"White-collar criminality," Dr. Sutherland said, "differs from lower-class criminality principally in that it has a different application of the criminal law which applies to it, due to the social power of the white-collar criminals.

"The privileged position of upper-class criminals before the law results to a slight extent from bribery and political pressure, but principally from the respect in which they are held and without effort on their part."

The most powerful group in medieval society obtained relative immunity by "benefit of clergy," he said. Today it is secured by "benefit of business or profession."

Lists "Criminal" Figures

White-collar criminality, he declared, is found in every profession —"the present-day white-collar criminals, who are more suave and deceptive than the 'robber barons,' are represented by Kreuger, Stavisky, Whitney, Insull, Musica-Coster and Fall, and many other merchant princes and captains of finance and industry, and by a host of lesser followers.

"Their criminality has been demonstrated again and again in the investigations of land offices, railways, insurance, munitions, banking, public utilities, stock exchanges, the oil industry, real estate, reorganization committees, receierships, bankruptcies and politics."

Quoting several sources to the effect that the criminal in politics is an amateur compared to the criminal in business, Dr. Sutherland declared: "Obviously not every business and professonal man is a criminal. On the other hand, the preceding statements refer in many cases to the leading corporations in America and are not restricted to the disreputable business and professional men who are called quacks, ambulance chasers, bucket-shop operators, dead-beats and fly-by-night swindlers.

"Social Morale Lowered"

"While other crimes produce relatively little effect on social institutions or social organizations, white-collar crimes lower social morale and produce social disorganization on a large scale."

He cited as an example of this that "public enemies one to six secured $130,000 by burglary and robbery in 1938, while the sum stolen by Krueger is estimated at $250,000,000, or nearly two thousand times as much."

Holding that "the white-collar crime is a real crime," Dr. Sutherland proposed these five extensions of "the criteria of white-collar crimes" to obtain just convictions:

First. Other agencies than the criminal court must be included, for the criminal court is not the only agency which makes official decisions regarding violations of criminal law.

Second. For both classes (high and low), behavior which would have a reasonable expectancy of conviction if tried in a criminal court or substitute agency, should be defined as criminal.

Stresses "Pressure"

Third. Behavior should be defined as criminal if conviction is thwarted merely because of pressure which is brought to bear on the court.

Fourth. Persons who are accessories to a crime should be included among white-collar criminals, as they are among other criminals.

Fifth. An act which cannot be proved to be criminal when considered by itself may readily be appraised as criminal when identified as an instance of a system of behavior.

At today's morning session of the American Sociological Society Dr. Robert E. L. Faris, McGill University, Montreal, declared that society "powerfully discourages advanced learning."

This tendency, he said, operates to "differentiate the population in ability, not only to produce great abilities in the few, but just as definitely to produce mediocrity in the many and deficiencies in another minority."

In another address Dr. Robert K. Merton, Tulane University, made the premise, based on "opinionaires" filled out by 346 "Northern" and 233 "Southern" college students, that sectional differences as portrayed in "Gone With the Wind" are still alive.

Example: On the statement "Should the Negro have the same opportunities of education and development as the white man," the 'Northerners" voted 83.2 per cent 'yes."

On this statement, "The Negro should always occupy an inferior position in the community," the 'Southerners" were 64.4 per cent in agreement.

The Negro Is A Thief, Not A Rapist

The Associated Press last week carried a news story in which detailed figures showed the amount of watermelons Negroes annually consumed. Following the reading of this article we suppose quite a ripple of laughter fluttered over the nation, despite the fact that quite a few human beings, whose faces are not black, buy all of the "first run" watermelons, because they are then too high priced for Negroes to purchase.

Accusing the Negro of having an inordinate appetite for watermelons, is somewhat like terming craps as "African golf". Again there is an unusual number of persons in the dear old U. S. A. whose ethnological strains are not black evincing deep interest in "African golf". In fact, we recall one prominent white attorney in Oklahoma City, now deceased, who used to spend much of his spare time behind the old Lee (now Huckins) Hotel shooting craps with his bellboy friends.

The immediate cause for what we are now saying develops out of some other figures recently assembled we have yet to see published in southern newspapers, and having to do with Negroes. It will be recalled that for many years lynch law has reigned down in Dixie because, according to the allegation of the mob, Negroes raped white women. The mob has justified its existence because of this Frankenstein which it claims follows in the wake of white womanhood.

The figures we have in mind relate to the crime of rape and the tendency on the part of various segments and units of the American people to commit this bestial crime. The figures in question were assembled by Dr. Ernest Albert Hooten, head of the department of anthropology at Harvard College. No Negro had anything to do with the assembly of this data, so that one should assume it is an impartial statement from a white man's viewpoint. If the figures are to be accepted it proves that the crime of rape is committee least of all by Negroes in the United States.

Dr. Hooten's figures show that the rankings in rape in America are as follows: Foreign whites, 12.5 per cent; native whit ebut foreign parentage, 6.2 per cent; old American, 4.7 per cent; Negroid, 4.5 per cent; Negroes 4.3 per cent.

However, Dr. Hooten's figures show that the Negro rates first in crimes of burglary and larceny, the rankings being: Negroes, 43.9 per cent; native white but foreign parentage, 43.7 per cent; Negroid, 39.2 per cent; old American, 38.3 per cent; foreign white, 32.8 per cent.

Dr. Hooten's statistics found that so-called pure Nordic types go in heavily for forgery and fraud. Material for the book was gathered over a period of three years by trained field workers. Nine years were spent at Harvard analyzing the material before the book was published.

And while we are on the subject it might be well to point out that southern white women under the leadership of Mrs. Jessie Daniels Ames, of Atlanta, Georgia, several years ago, organized the "Association for the Prevention of Lynching". This fine group of white women have, in their own way nailed the lie about Negroes being potential rapists. They have dug down into the records for facts which show that three-fourts of the Negroes lynched in the past fifty-five yars were charged with crimes other than rape.

The N.A.A.C.P. went a little further into this subject and discovered that down in Dixie, instead of attempting to protect white womanhood, mobs formed and slaughtered Negroes for such such minor offenses as (1) being a witness, (2) improper conduct, (3) writing insulting notes, (4) insisting on eating in a restaurant after being refused service, (5) threatening man with knife, (6) trying to act like a white man and "not knowing his place", (7) "sassing"" a white man, (8) being a strike breaker, (9) using insulting language, (10) discussing a lynching, (11) making boastful remarks, (12) misleading mob, (13) vagrancy, (14) slapping boy, (15) jumping labor contract, (16) insisting on voting, (17) gambling, (18) throwing stones, (19) enticing labor away.

It is particularly refreshing and inspiring to know that out of this veil of false propaganda and lies there stalks a fine liberal white man to announce that the Negro is more sinned against than sinning. While the tendency towards rape seems to be low, according to Dr. Hooten, it appears that the black man's batting average as a thief is high. When, however, one takes into account the economic level upon which the black man is forced to live; when we remember that in our industrial system he is the last hired and the first fired; when we recall the hunger, destitution and privation attendant with such low living standards, the wonder is that the percentage of crimes such as burglary and larceny is not larger among American blacks.

White Folk Lead In Rape, Black Folk in Stealing, Though Figures Don't Lie, Yet They Are Less Appealing

New York—The crime of rape in the United States is committed least by Negroes and most by foreign whites according to statistics contained in a new book "Crime and the Man by the Dr. Ernest Albert Hooton, head of the department of anthropology at Harvard university.

Dr. Hooton's figures show that the rankings in rape in America are as follows. foreign white, 12.5 per cent; native white but foreign parentage 6.2 per cent; old American, 4.7 per cent; Negroid, 4.5 per cent; Negroes 4.3 per cent.

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BEST EDITORIAL OF THE WEEK

WHITE FOLKS STILL IN THE LEAD

There is a certain type of Negro, now fortunately in the minority, who is forever disparaging his own people and declaring that the white folks are in the lead in everything.

While we have never been able to endorse this blanket statement, we must admit that when it comes to murder the white folks are indeed far ahead of us.

There has been a great deal said about the Negro homicide rate and it has been cited as evidence of the low cultural status of our people, but the revelations of the Philadelphia poison ring prove that when it comes to killing we are mere novices.

Most of our killings are crimes of passion committed on the spur of the moment with gun, ice pick or switch blade knife; but with the poison ring of Philadelphia, composed exclusively of white people, the killings were committed with revolting calculation.

It is not difficult to understand one person killing another over a gambling game, a drunken argument or a love affair; but what are we to think of people who hired wives to poison their husbands, who maintained laboratories for compounding the necessary poisons, who operated marriage bureaus to enable the murderous widows to secure additional husbands, who induced men and women to kill their relatives and friends for insurance money, who operated not only in one city and state but in all the territory within a radius of 100 miles! Not since the days of the Borgias has such devilishly cunning and calloused killing been committed on such a large scale. This gang was more fiendish than the old K. K. K.

This business was entirely white folks' work, not a single Negro being involved, directly or indirectly. It is fair to assume that all these fiends considered themselves superior because they were white, and would have yelled their heads off if a Negro had dined in their favorite cafe or moved into their block. Any one of them could have hired a room or a suite of rooms in the best hotel or resort in the United States or obtained the finest accommodations on the best trains with no difficulty. Because America, like Germany and Italy, holds all such people superior merely because they are classed as white.

Much is said in America as well as in the so-called dictatorships maintaining the purity of the white race, and the REAL reason for American jim-crowism is to prevent inevitable racial intermixture, although orators and wrters boast of this country being a melting pot.

Yes, white folks are in the lead when it comes to crime.

We have yet to slay thousands in gang warfare; to disgrace high office by bribery and fraud; to mob lone men, women and even children with rope and faggot; to organize arson, poison and accident rackets, or to defraud our government out of millions of dollars in customs and tax receipts. We have never organized to poison 200 people for their insurance. There is no doubt about it, we are definitely inferior in crime. We salute the superiority of our white folks!

Pittsburgh Courier.

Lottery Would Be Legal

Sweepstakes Would Also Be Wiped Out

WASHINGTON—(ANP) —When and if congress gets around to it, the passing of the bill to establish lotteries in the United States will wipe out all number rackets, phony sweepstakes tickets, and turn into the yawning treasuries of our United States, millions now going abroad and into private pockets from whence it never returns.

The Congressional District Modification league is behind the move to legalize gambling and has conducted a survey in Washington to determine public opinion.

According to figures available, it is alleged that $100,000 per day is spent in Washington on the number racket alone. Of this sum, colored citizens in the northwest section of the city pay out $30,000 per day.

Sweepstakes took from this country last year $30,000,000 with a return of $5,000,000 in prizes. Other than the prize money, the government had no opportunity to touch this large sum.

This does not account for the huge sums paid out for phony tickets.

On the other hand, the bill will seek to legalize number playing, which has reached in New York City, an immense total of $10,000,000 per annum, according to moderate estimates. Of course, most of these figures are estimated and cannot be verified, but the estimates are considered pretty low.

The gambling craze has reached such a stage here, many feel that it will be a source of considerable revenue to the government, eliminate bribery, murders and crimes of all kinds—much in the same way that the majority of race tracks have been controlled through the pari-mutuel system of betting.

Aside from assuring the government of an additional revenue, the adoption of such a bill would assure the player of certain returns on his money should he be fortunate enough to "hit."

"SOUTH CANNOT LYNCH ITSELF OUT OF CRIME"

MOBILE, Ala., July 6.—(Special)—"The South cannot lynch itself out of crime," the Rev. A. Ellison, prominent local minister, declared in an address here Wednesday night, in which he pointed out that crime cannot be curbed by the commission of crime.

In this scientific age, he said, citizens generally will do well to determine the cause of crime. "It is not enough," he said, "to make investigations and mete out punishment after a crime has been committed. There should be investigation before crimes occur if they are to be prevented. Too many mental defectives, for instance, are roaming the streets and countryside at will.

SAYS MANY CRIMINALS .. ... MENTALLY UNBALANCED .. .

"Men who commit criminal assaults, kidnap babies and snuff out their lives, are unquestionably mentally unbalanced. Such people must be identified and confined before they can do harm to others. We who are sane must realize this, and not lose our heads ourselves. The problem is one that has become a vital issue in our society, and we must face it like men.

"We cannot blot out crime by committing crimes ourselves. The South cannot lynch itself out of crime. If this procedure is taken then the last act is worse than the first. We must go about seeking and finding the solution to the problem in an orderly and thoughtful way. With all races and creeds working together toward the same goal, that solution can and will be found."

Should The Numbers Racket Be Legalized? Asks A Michigan Law Officer

By PETRY FISHER

Whatever may be our views on the question of gambling, we must admit at the outset that from the beginning of recorded history, the majority of men, motivated either by pleasure or profit, have "risked or wagered something of value upon a chance." And whether we approve of it or not, we find that today in all of our communities there exists ample facilities for the expression of this gambling impulse.

Of the various types or manners of gambling, we see that the numbers racket is the most common, the most popular and the most widespread. I do not wish to discuss the moral issues of this subject, but merely to point out some facts which I believe will support the contention that the number racket ought to be legalized.

In the first place, it is a matter of common knowledge that in all of our large cities several millions of dollars are turned over in the number racket annually. It is also a matter of common knowledge that in no city, including New York, have the authorities been able to crush this racket.

The arrest of hundreds of number racketeers have only opened the way for others to take their places. Any serious observation of the number racket would seem to indicate, therefore, that the police cannot keep citizens from playing the numbers nor keep the number racketeers from accepting their bets.

It was demonstrated in the prohibition era that when a law does not have the support of the majority of the citizens that law must of necessity become ineffective. If it is true that the majority of the citizens play the numbers, and there is no reason to doubt it, we can readily imagine why the law enforcing agencies find it so difficult to cope with the problem.

If the number racket were legalized, it would eliminate one of the most dangerous and unhealthy conditions in our civic life. I refer to the matter of payment for protection. There is ample evidence to prove the fact that in all of the large cities where the number racket is widespread, there exists some understanding between the number men and the law-enforcing agency. This relationship between the gambler and the law was well demonstrated in the sensational Hines case in New York City. No serious citizen does not realize how such a relationship undermines the very foundation of our civic life.

It has been said that Americans have no respect for the law. If this is true, we believe that one of the reasons why it is so, lies in the fact that too many of our laws run counter to the will of the great majority of our people. The unpopularity of the prohibition law created an era of lawlessness never before seen in American life. The fact that the number game is outlawed represents a similar issue. There seems to be two practical approaches to the problem; either put half the population in jail for gambling; or legalize it.

When the authorities are bought off, it creates a weak and unscrupulous police department. By accepting money in turn for protecting the racketeers, the authorities become hirelings of the gamblers and the law of the land is administered by the outlaws. This undermines the integrity of our civic institutions and makes an honest man as hard to find as a hen's tooth.

By legalizing the numbers, the number banker removes the stigma which he still faces despite the popularity of the racket. It will remove temptation, at least some of it, from the authorities whose duty it is to enforce the laws. Instead of paying off to the authorities, the number banker will pay off to the government in a legal manner, which would go far to ease the burden of the taxpayers and very probably would balance our national budget.

PETRY FISHER

There are far too many aspects to the number problem for me to discuss them all here and now. I merely wish to make a suggestion and if possible to present a view which quite a few people hold. Legalized gambling is nothing really new. In practically all of our Latin American countries there are government lotteries and the gambling element is under control. I know that there are many moralists who can present a good argument that gambling is a vice which should not be tolerated under any circumstances.

Unfortunately, however, we have to face realities. Despite all that the preacher says, the gambling public increases in size every day. We cannot solve a problem by ignoring it. The number racket has a strangle-hold in all of our cities and the law has been unable to do anything about it. We do not feel that this situation should continue. In conclusion, I believe that the citizens must make up their minds to do one of two things, either make a sincere effort to cut gambling out; or legalize it.

Columbia, S. C. State
July 27, 1939

WHO ARE THE CRIMINALS?

Who are the criminals in the United States? Ask that question of the average man and he is likely to give this answer: "The foreigners." But the answer is not correct.

"One reason why some people still think this," says Winthrop D. Lane in a Public Affairs Committee pamphlet, "is that they believe they notice so many foreign-looking names of criminals in the newspapers. A name, however, may be an alias and this kind of evidence is unsound. . . . The reports of the Federal Bureau of Investigation show that for every 100,000 foreign-born whites in the total population 209 were arrested and finger printed in 1938. The corresponding figure for native whites was 571. In other words, 2.7 times as many native whites were arrested and fingerprinted as foreign-born whites in proportion to the total numbers of both. The foreign born approach the record of the native born more closely in crimes involving personal violence as contrasted with crimes against property."

But the situation is not so complimentary to American-born children of foreign-born parents. "For example," continues Mr. Lane's pamphlet, "nearly two-thirds of the boys appearing before a group of juvenile courts reporting to the United States Children's Bureau had one or both parents foreign born. The exact meaning of this figure cannot be clear until allowance has been made for the porportionate number of such children in the areas served by the courts, but it is large enough to raise a question."

In explaining the more common delinquency among children of the foreign-born, Mr. Lane thinks it likely their parents often resent the American ways of the children, as contrasted with their own folk ways, and that this resentment disturbs the peacefulness of the homes

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In explaining the more common delinquency among children of the foreign-born, Mr. Lane thinks it likely their parents often resent the American ways of the children, as contrasted with their own folk ways, and that this resentment disturbs the peacefulness of the homes after which the children revolt and engage in delinquent behavior. Another factor is that these children of the foreign-born often or usually live under slum conditions.

Quoting from the pamphlet again: "Many more Negroes are arrested than their numbers alone would lead one to expect; for every 100,000 Negroes in the population, 1,503 were arrested and fingerprinted in 1938, the corresponding figure for native white people being 571. The percentage of Negroes sent to prison is also high. Of all persons received by state prisons and reformatories in 1936, the last year for which figures are available, although they constituted 27 per cent. of the total population of the United States they furnished 51 per cent. of the adult committed offenders. Thus, it cannot be said that the South differs in this respect from the North."

"Nor is there any part of the United States in which this situation does not exist. In the New England states, where Negroes constitute only 1.1 per cent. of the population, they furnish 4.8 per cent. of persons sent to state prisons and reformatories in 1936. It is the same in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin and other Northern and Western states. In the South Atlantic states, where they are 28 per

Says Economic Jim Crow Causes High Crime Rate

Daily World 8-4-39 Atlanta, Ga.

NEW YORK—(SNS)— The fact that a large proportion of the Negro population in the United States live in disease-ridden slums "under the worst kind of economic conditions," plays an important part in accounting for high rate of criminalty among this section of our citizenry, according to Winthrop D. Lane.

Writing in a current pamphlet issued by the Public Affairs Committee, a non profit educational organization, on "What Makes Crime?", the author says:

"A remarkable situation exists with respect to Negroes Many more Negroes are arrested than their numbers alone would lead one to expect; for every 100,000 Negroes in the population, 1,503 were arrested and fingerprinted in 1938, the corresponding figure for native white people being 571. The pecentage of Negroes sent to prison is also high. Of all persons received by state prisons and reformatories in 1936, the latest year for which figures are available, Negroes constituted 27 per cent, although they are only 9.6 per cent of the total population of the United States.'

NOT 'NATURAL' CRIMINALS

Pointing out that these conditions are true in the North and South, Lane makes the following observations on the causes back of this situation:

"Neither can it be charged that Negroes are naturally more likely to be criminals." he says. "It must be remembered that a large part of the Negroes live in slums under the worst kind of economic conditions.

"Then, too, the law enforcement agencies are manned by white people, with the exception of a few Negro policemen in Negro sections of Northern cities. The Chicago Commission on Race Relations reported some years ago that testimony submitted to it was 'practically unanimous that Negroes are much more liable to arrest than whites since police officers....feel that there is little risk of trouble in arresting Negroes, while greater care must be exercised in arresting whites.'

MORE TO INSTITUTIONS

"Judges are likely to conclude that conditions in Negro homes are unsuitable for children, and so commit a greater per centage of Negro children to institutions than white children.

"The general prejudice against Negroes, coupled with the social and economic discrimination making their lives difficult in other respects, must be held accountable for at least a large part of this high rate of arrest and imprisonment.

"Not until Negroes have as good economic, educational and other opportunities as white persons can any fair comparison be made between their criminality and that of whites.

"Some years ago it was shown that none of the 800 graduates of Atlanta University and only one of about 3,500 graduates of Fisk University had been imprisoned. Few universities for whites could make a better showing.

There Are No Racial Crimes

Many Atlantans have been heard to express the opinion that the murderer, who after killing his victim, stuffed her in a trunk at Washington and shipped it via baggage check to Atlanta, could not have been a Negro, because Negroes just don't do things like that.

While it is not our desire to contend that the slayer was red, white, black or any other color, the argument that the crime could not have been committed by a Negro struck us as being very foolish. It is the same argument, the reverse of which, has reacted so unfavorably against American Negroes for lo these many years.

This same belief that certain crimes can be generally laid at the door of certain races, has resulted in the totally untrue yet universal assumption of many police officials that every time someone is criminally attacked, the assailant's face must have been black; that every time someone is murdered with a razor, the racial identity of the killer is fairly certain; that every time chickens chance to be missing, the thief is sure to be found in a colored district.

This effort to label certain crimes as racial has resulted in many an innocent person's life being taken either by the state or a mob, and many more cases of innocent individuals being deprived of their liberty for long periods.

Criminals of other races have been known to take advantage of this stupid belief in racial crimes. Daily one can read in the newspapers where crimes charged to Negroes, have later been discovered to have been perpetuated by individuals who found burnt cork an extremely convenient disguise.

Criminologists have long ago concluded that there are no racial crimes, that the tendency to criminal acts is no more prevalent in one race than it is in the other. Environment and economics are the twin determiners of criminal tendencies, not race.

It is just as an absurd fallacy then for our people to conclude that the trunk murderer was white, merely because he devised the ingenious plan of disposing of his victim's body, as it is for other people to foolishly assert that certain crimes are definitely Negroid.

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(From Atlanta Daily World)

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Henry Armstrong — Man

(From Louisiana Weekly)

SEVERAL years ago, when heavyweight champion Gene Tunney retired from the ring to devote himself to a life of culture and letters, he became known as "Gentleman Gene," and much was said about his departure from the then prescribed activities for men who had swung leather. Since that day, not so much amazement has been expressed at the varied degrees of intelligence exhibited by men who have won fame and fortune in the squared circle, yet none of them had anywhere near approached the attainments of "Gentleman Gene."

Now he has a dark counter-part, except that the new claimant to superior intelligence and culture has earned his laurels while still earning his fortune, and thus shown that brain has aided brawn considerably to gain the financial security he now enjoys.

Henry Armstrong, considered the greatest fighter of all times, has always elicited favorable comment at his quiet, unassuming bearing and his quick friendliness. His knowledge of any and all subjects, parlor topics or what not, have long since stamped him as superior to a great many formally trained men, and his business acumen has not been developed by any "brain trust."

He has provided for his family without fan-fare, and his wife and baby have accompanied him on numerous jaunts. They have not been publicized in the world of society, nor have they been setters of fashions in clothing and entertainment. Their lives have been beautifully free from malicious rumor, and they are known for religious activities.

Henry Armtsrong, no doubt, will continue to live as quietly as he desires, moving in such circles as he elects, and amassing as much money as he wishes. He has earned the right to the title which will, no doubt, follow him into whatever line of endeavor he turns, and it will be good to know him as Henry Armstrong, MAN.

Give Us Time

The Public Affairs Committee published a study recently indicating that the crime rate for colored people per 1,000 is 15; for whites, 5, and for foreign-born, 2. Afro-American - Baltimore, Md.

It is true that the crime rate is three times as high among us, but, as sociologists like Dr. E. Franklin Frazier of Howard and Dr. Earl Moses of Morgan point out, the crime areas are the slums where poor housing, low wages, inadequate schools, playgrounds and parks, and ill health are common, and where the police, magistrates and welfare officials are all white. 10-28-39

The Federal census reports 69 per cent of all persons sent to penal institutions by the courts of the District of Columbia are colored. In Maryland the rate is 55 per cent; in Virginia, 54 per cent; in North Carolina, 44 per cent; in Pennsylvania, 20 per cent; in New Jersey, 25 per cent; in New York, 17 per cent; in Connecticut, 6 per cent, and in Massachusetts, .04 per cent.

Inability of the Southern migrant to get steady work and adjust himself to normal life under the present handicaps of racial prejudice means that our crime rate will undoubtedly go higher still.

So far, the crimes committed have been mostly individual petty crimes, but we have produced a few substantial numbers barons and underworld lords. Eventually, we ought to be able to match the Italians in a Capone, or the Jews in a Lepke, or the Germans in a Bruno Hauptmann, or the Irish in a Jimmy Hines, or the native-born white American in a Jesse James or a John Dillinger.

Give us time.

Eugenics Society Of Northern California

November 21, 1939

Editor, Globe and Independent,
447 4th Avenue, North,
Nashville, Tenn.

Dear Sir:

The London Bobby carries no gun. Yet Britain's murder rate is but a fraction of ours whose police go heavily armed.

There is possibly a eugenical reason for this. Scientists now assert perhaps nearly one-half our crime has a base in inheritance. England, over many decades, eliminated her criminal strains by hanging offenders. Italian scientists have done much research upon the inheritance of criminal tendencies. Dr. Monachesi reminds us: "When in 1871 Lombroso found in the cranium of the notorious bandit Villella an occipital depression usually found in the anthropoid apes in place of the occipital crest found in man, much that is now known as criminal anthropology and biology was born." This discovery, made over sixty years ago, dominates all of the more important efforts of the present day Italian criminologists toward the understanding of criminal behavior.

If this be true, can we perhaps reduce our crushing taxes for crime by awakening wider public interest in the sterilization of ciminals? Germany has hundreds of eugenic courts, cautiously, scientifically trying her social inadequates as to their right to become parents. Eight other Northwestern European nations have similar laws.

Respectfully,

E. H. Pitts, M. D.

Stamp Out Murder

The killing of Negroes by Negroes must be stamped out. We kill few whites, a fact which proves that our urge to destroy each other is needlessly frequent. We lift our voices to high heaven calling for an anti-lynching bill, when in any city of size we kill many more than are lynched over the whole United States. Call

Murder among Negroes has been treated as a minor crime, a few months in jail being the average punishment. To this disregard for the law of God and man we have contributed. Formerly Negroes did not get justice in the courts. So we used to feel duty bound to help all escape conviction who could. But the Scottsboro cases changed all that. Theoretically a Negro is now on every jury which tries a Negro. By himself he is a guarantee that race prejudice will not cause a conviction. That share in law enforcement carries with it responsibility. We must help get convictions now. 11-24-39

This proneness of Negroes to settle their own differences flowed naturally out of their lack of faith in the courts. Of it knife and pistol toting was born. But that day is past and the deadly weapon must pass with it. A dime, a word, a blow, a disappointment does not call for death for the one doing the wrong. The aggrieved would not feel the impulse to kill if they knew that immediately the public would join with the law in apprehending and convicting them. Kansas City Mo.

This will to kill is self-induced, whipped-up frenzy clear out of proportion to the importance of the controversy. The killer says "You hit me, I kill you." That is not self-defense. The killer says "You take my money, I kill you." If he is that sure he is right, society says he shall ask the courts to recover his property. The killer says "She proved faithless, I kill her." A waste of effort because when dead she cannot be made to pay the cost of punishment also falls on the public. But the loss of wages and op-

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PRISONS WITHOUT WALLS ADVOCATED BY EXPERT HERE

Sociologists Told That Normal Atmosphere Should Be Provided as Far as Is Practical.

By LUKE GREENE.

Prisons that permit normal living—those without foreboding walls—should serve as powerful weapons in the war against crime, L. F. Chapman, superintendent of the Florida state prison, declared yesterday at the close of the fourth annual meeting of the Southern Sociological Society.

Chapman said such prisons represent the modern trend in penology. He cited the present experiment in Florida in which special emphasis is being placed on rehabilitating criminals and sending them back into society to become good citizens. He described the experiment as "illuminating."

"Most of the men and women who go to prison do so because they have been in the habit of living abnormally," he said. "Although no institution where men or women are crowded together is absolutely normal, the Florida state prison maintains an atmosphere as nearly normal as possible."

In creating this atmosphere, he said, there should be strict discipline. The Florida prison, however, has only six rules—no drinking, no weapons, no gambling, respect for officers, cleanliness and work. These, he explained, are rigidly enforced.

The superintendent emphasized the importance of work. He said every prisoner should work—even to the cripples "that must crawl around in the onion beds and loosen the soil."

He also thinks there should be no mysteries about a prison. That is why he dislikes walls. Mysteries, he said, frequently result in riots.

Walls "an Error."

"A wall about a prison is an error—social as well as financial," he said. "Certainly it is not good for the rehabilitation of criminals. Men grow if they can see."

The Florida prison has only a fence around it. On Sunday afternoons the prisoners play ball out in the open. They can see beyond the fence—see the woods, the flowers, the beauties of nature. They can wave to their friends who pass along the road. They get just enough liberty to realize what they are missing.

Chapman also pointed to the necessity for constant mental expansion in prisoners. He said there is a tendency toward regimentation. The prisoners learn to take the same step as the man in front. They follow a routine. And as a result they die mentally.

He was asked his opinion of Georgia's penal reform. He said he wanted it understood he was not being critical but explained he thought Governor Rivers' program was too sweeping to be accomplished in so short a time.

"The system is good," he said. "The people just couldn't digest it in so short a time. There have been misinterpretations. That is responsible for most of the confusion."

Treatment of Juveniles.

There were other discussions on criminology and penology. W. B. Jones Jr., of the University of Tennessee, drew a tragic picture of treatment of juvenile offenders in that state.

Jones pointed to the physical set-up—the poorly equipped, unsanitary buildings in which the prisoners were housed. He talked on the inefficiency of certain courts and explained that the majority of probation officers are not qualified, being selected because of politics.

J. Herman Johnson, of Alabama Polytechnic Institute, outlined the parole system in Alabama and labeled it a "political racket."

"It is merely a political gesture to ease public opinion," he asserted. He pointed out that while the parole bureau, established four years ago, supervises only 133 paroles for one year, the Governor during the four-year period had granted over 2,000 paroles without recommendations of the parole bureau. The trouble, he said, was that the parole bureau was not being used.

There were discussions on race and culture. Ralph M. Davis, of the department of records and research at Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, told how the negro newspaper reflects "consciousness of the group arising out of a conflict of situations, and is a specialized press of a minority group." Walter H. Chivers, of Morehouse College, reviewed the progress of negro adult education."

New officers of the Sociological Association are: Dr. Fred C. Frey, of Louisiana State University, president; Dr. Charles S. Johnson, of Fisk University, first vice president; Dr. Belle Boone Beard, of Sweet Briar College, Virginia, second vice president; Dr. B. O. Williams, of Clemson Agricultural College, secretary-treasurer. Members of the executive committee are Dr. Comer Woodward, of Emory University; Dr. Hornell Hart, of Duke University, and Dr. Walter C. Reckless, of Vanderbilt University.

CLASS OF WORKERS HELD 'RURBANITES'

Persons who live in the country and work in the city were classified yesterday by Mrs. Ruth J. Wittmeyer, of the University of North Carolina, at the closing session of the Southern Sociological Society.

She called such commuters "rurbanites."

Miami, Fla. Herald
April 2, 1939

PRISON HEAD DECRIES USE OF PRISON WALLS

Southern Sociological Society Hears L. F. Chapman, of Raiford, Urge Fences

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATLANTA, April 1.—Discussion of prison and parole reform wound up the fourth annual meeting of the Southern Sociological Society here Saturday.

Dr. Fred C. Frey, of Louisiana State University, was elected president of the society. Dr. Charles S. Johnson, of Fisk University, first vice president; Dr. Belle Boone Beard, of Sweet Briar College, second vice president, and Dr. B. O. Williams, of Clemson College, secretary-treasurer.

Chapman Wants Fences

Executive committeemen elected include Dr. Comer Woodward of Emory University; Dr. Hornell Hart of Duke University and Dr. Walter C. Reckless of Vanderbilt University.

L. F. Chapman, superintendent of the Florida State Prison, in an address to the society, recommended good stout fences instead of walls around prisons as a reform measure. Walls, he said, present a "standing challenge" to prisoners for escape.

Is Social Error

"A wall about a prison is an error, social as well as financial," he said. "Certainly it is not good for the rehabilitation of criminals. Men grow if they can see."

Chapman pointed to the necessity for constant mental expansion in prisoners, and emphasized the importance of work. Every prisoner should work, he said.

W. J. Jones, jr., of the University of Tennessee, discussed treatment of juvenile offenders in that state and said the physical set-up as regards buildings in which prisoners were housed was "bad." He also criticized methods of selecting probation officers, and said many were being selected "because of politics."

J. Herman Johnson, of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute, said full use of the parole bureau was not being made in Alabama. The convention opened Friday morning, and drew delegates from all parts of the South.

The Negro And The Law

It has been our contention for years that too many Southern white judges, jurors and law enforcement officers have had a tendency to be lenient with Negro defendants in all-Negro criminal cases. Leading Southern Negroes and, in recent years, some Southern white judges and law enforcement officers have concurred in this opinion.

In Birmingham Police Judge Henry Martin and Judge H. B. Abernethy, who hear most of the cases involving Negroes in this county, have decided that Negro defendants in all-Negro cases should be prosecuted just as vigorously as are white defendants. Both judges have found that such an attitude has been helpful in protecting Negro residents from criminal activities among their own people. Leaders among Negroes have praised this attitude of the jurists and say that it is bearing good fruit.

But the South is not the only section in which more attention should be paid to the criminal problems among the Negroes. Only recently a Negro member of the New York Assembly introduced a bill to prohibit the possession of "switch blade knives," weapons which the bill's author insisted were "just as dangerous as machine guns and pistols."

At first white members of the New York Assembly refused to take the "switch blade knife" measure seriously. Most of them had never seen a "switch blade knife." They doubted that the weapon could be as dangerous as the Negro legislator described it.

The Negro assemblyman, however, drew a "switch blade" from his pocket on the floor of the assembly hall and brandished it. With expert motions he moved the knife through the air, sending chills up the backs of the lawmakers.

The assemblymen saw the knife, noticed the expert manner in which it was handled, got the point. They outlawed the use of the "switch blades."

Here was another case of the white lawmakers overlooking a problem that affected many, many Negro residents of New York. The white men did not appreciate the depth of this seemingly minor problem. Yet every Negro in New York has known for years, the danger of such a weapon among his people.

Sometimes we wonder, if right here in Birmingham, it would not be a good idea for public officials, law enforcement officers, judges and others who occupy important places in our governments, local and state, to consult regularly with committees of leading Negroes on the problems affecting their people—not just the problems involving relationships with white people, but the numerous problems among Negroes that so often are never known by many white persons.

House Gets Bill to Abolish Inhuman Prison Systems

Elimination of Chain-Gangs and Dungeons Aim of Legislation Filed By Representative Matthew A. Dunn

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A bill to abolish chain-gang systems, dungeons, and inhuman treatment of prison inmates was introduced in the House last week by Representative Matthew A. Dunn, Democrat, of Pittsburgh.

In a preamble the bill recites that there are many unfortunate people who, because they cannot find employment are compelled to solicit in order to obtain the necessities life and many of them have been arrested and sent to prison as vargants and while in prison have been subjected to inhuman treatment.

Under its terms all chain-gang systems and dungeons in the United States and its possessions would be abolished and inhuman treatment of prison inmates would be discontinued. It would also require all penitentiaries, jails, police stations and other places of incarceration to be kept in a sanitary condition at all times.

Any official, guard or overseer of any of the institutions mentioned in the bill would be subject to a fine of not more than $1,000, or imprisonment not exceeding three years, or both, for violation of its provisions.

THE PRESS AND CRIME

One does not have to be a cynic to have the opinion that little or nothing will come of the much publicized drive to clean up the gambling in Nashville. This, notwithstanding the admitted power of the press to do valiant work in breaking up gambling or any other kind of lawlessness prevalent in a community.

No drive against any form of lawlessness is likely to succeed unless there is back of it an honesty of purpose to such an extent that those promoting the drive leave no doubt in the public mind that they are out to administer equal justice to all and grant special privilege to none.

In Nashville or any other city of its size, all forms of gambling are in existence. One form is as sinful as another and yet too often those kinds of gambling engaged in by the "little fellows," who have only a few nickels or dimes to engage in games of chance are the ones upon whom drives are planned and carried out. The "big boys" who engage in gaming involving big money are never molested and are allowed to engage in their pastime as though it were sanctioned by law.

Failure to "crack down" on all forms of gaming, whether engaged in by high or low; failure to tell their reporters to go out in search of the big gamblers and thereby get a "big story" is characteristic of newspapers and thereby they chill the ardor of law enforcement officers for the "big drives" these newspapers sponsor.

It is noted in the press of the past week that J. Edgar Hoover, famed chief of the G-Men, is quoted as saying that slot machines and the numbers games are the things which have spawned the major felonies of a community. Mr. Hoover, however, did not say that in the fine radio address he delivered while here. That address was directed at venal politics, with a recital of what were believed to be the sins of the Pendergast machine in Kansas City, Missouri. The effect of that address, it would seem, should be to warn Tennesseans that a machine, almost as venal as the one which dominated Kansas City, has gotten hold of the affairs of this state and instead of fawning before that machine our newspapers should fight it as the Kansas City Star has fought the machine of that city. Both from the standpoint of serving the public interest as well as making money newspapers have a golden opportunity for success when they dare to wage war on sin in high places. The public rallies to such a cause and law enforcement officers are always anxious to obey public sentiment in such matters. These same officers, however, are not likely to bestir themselves to their fullest extent when they know that those sponsoring a clean-up drive want it merely to catch the small fry while letting much bigger offenders go unmolested.

The Nashville public, with Nashville newspapers the supposed champions of their desires and will, can reduce gaming to a minimum in this city whenever a determined effort is made to do so. But that effort must be wholeheartedly honest to achieve any worthwhile results. Cracking down on little fellows who happen to be no source of revenue to newspapers, while neglecting ever to point to the sins of those who happen to be profitable clients, is a practice which is viewed in its proper light and given its proper weight both by the general public and by officers of the law. Public sentiment does not support these drives on the little fellows. But on the other hand, look at the public response to a realistic drive against crime and corruption, such as that engineered by the Kansas City Star in that wicked city, not to mention the way Tom Dewey is carrying on in New York.

Ft. Myers, Fla., News Press
June 19, 1939

Views Of Other Editors

False Confessions

While there is no doubt that a large percentage of murders and other criminals escape the punishment they deserve, the number of innocent persons who are convicted, some of whom are put to death, is perhaps greater that is generally supposed.

This is true even among some who confess to the crime with which they are charged, particularly in cases where confessions are extorted through "third degree" methods. Several cases have been cited by Robert Cantwell, of the Chicago bar, including the following:

In the Boorne case in Vermont, two brothers confessed to a murder, but the man supposed to have been murdered showed up later, alive and well. In Illinois, three Trailor brothers confessed murdering a man named Fisher, and witnesses testified to having seen the dead body, yet Fisher turned up alive. In the same state a man named Turner was sentenced to death, but secured a new trial and before the second trial could be held the alleged victim returned.

These are only three out of a large number of similar cases cited by Mr. Cantwell, who declares that he has authentic records of no less than 129 persons who confessed and were executed for murders, although their supposed victims were found to be alive afterward.

This is not intended as a plea for laxity in bringing the guilty to justice, but it serves to show the great responsibility which rests upon juries and judges, as well as to emphasize the unreliability of circumstantial evidence, even when accompanied by a confession of guilt, in some cases. It particularly illustrates the frightful injustice of lynching under any circumstances.—Titusville Star-Advocate.

STUDY SHOWS RAPE LESS WITH NEGROES

Foreign Whites Rank Highest

NEW YORK, Feb. 2—The crime of rape in the United States is committed least by Negroes and most by foreign whites, according to statistics contained in a new book "Crime and the Man," by Dr Ernest Albert Hooton, head of the department of anthropology at Harvard university.

Dr. Hooton's figures show that the rankings in rape in America are as follows: foreign white, 12.5 per cent; native white but foreign parentage, 6.2 per cent; old American, 4.7 per cent; Negroid, 4.5 per cent; Negroes, 4.3 per cent.

Rank First in Burglary

However, Dr. Hooton's figures show that the Negro rates first in crimes of burglary and larceny the rankings being: Negroes, 43.9 per cent; native white but foreign parentage, 43.7 per cent; Negroid 39.2 per cent; old American, 38.3 per cent; foreign white, 32.8 per cent.

Dr. Hooton's statistics found that so-called pure Nordic types go in heavily for forgery and fraud. Material for the book was gathered over a period of three years by trained field workers. Nine years was spent at Harvard analyzing the material before the book was published.

White Rapist Overshadows Negro In U. S.

Book On Criminology Shows Alien Is Great-est Offender

NEW YORK, N. Y.—The crime of rape in the United States is committed least by Negroes and most by foreign whites, according to statistics contained in a new book "Crime and the Man" by Dr. Ernest Albert Hooton, head of the department of anthropology at Harvard university.

Dr. Hooton's figures show that the rankings in rape in America are as follows: foreign white, 12.5% native white but foreign parentage, 6.2% old American, 4.7%; Negroid, 4.5%; Negroes 4.3%.

However, Dr. Hooton's figures show that the Negro rates first in crimes of burglary and larceny, the ranking being: Negroes, 43.9%; native whites, but foreign parentage, 43.7%; Negroid, 39.2%; old American, 38.3%; foreign white, 32.8%.

CRIME IN SCHOOLS

The persistent recurrence of crime waves in our educational institutions, inevitably leads to one of two conclusions. Either the process of selecting students on the basis of character and scholarship is uncritical or loose, or the alumni and trustees have not exercised the best judgement in the selection of the administrative heads of their educational institutions.

It is evident there is a moral breakdown somewhere that leads not only to the commission of overt acts, but also to the perpetration of major crimes on the campuses of our schools where emotional restraint, disciplined habits and reflective actions are presumably an integral part of the curriculum. The possibility of administrative chicanery, intrigue and jealousy playing their part in the progressive destruction of an otherwise wholesome atmosphere must not be ruled out. For, the evils that are released by the interplay of forces, jockeying for position, may well be the immediate cause of these campus tragedies. Where teachers are forced to resort to all manner of defensive measures and unprofessional acts to retain their position, it is unlikely they would have both the time and the disposition to supervise the morals of their wards. Obviously the fault lies with the administrative heads who cover up their inefficiency by harassing and persecuting the teaching staff.

Even students, improperly selected, should and do react fairly well in accordance with the moral tone and the cultural level of their school community. But when the central authority is unable or unwilling to exercise proper ethical check and control because of extraneous indulgences, the result is invariably disorganization which culminates in moral disintegration and ultimate tragedy.

Fortunately there is a remedy. The remedy remains in the hands of trustees and alumni who should not hesitate to remove the cause.

It Will Help, But It Won't Do Everything

A well-meaning group of Negroes in a neighboring city have banded themselves together in an organization called the "Crusaders" and have for their object the destruction of crime among Negroes.

This is a fine objective and these people are to be congratulated for having so worthy an ambition, but we fear they are doomed to disappointment. In the first place, Negro criminality is just a part of the increased American tendency toward maintaining a rate of criminality far in excess of ANY other civilized country on the globe.

Secondly, Negro criminals, to be adequately reached need to have the sunlight and the air turned on them. Ghettos in which they are forced to live, create the tendency toward crime. Idleness produces crime. Ignorance, crowded conditions and a low social morale, with no adequate social or spiritual leadership to protect that morale against itself—all these are very definite contributors to the maintenance of a high criminality among Negroes.

The church as a social force has definitely gone out of the life of many Negroes due to frequent population shifts on the one hand and the breaking down of church interest on the other. This small church interest is frequently due to poor church leadership. In other instances it is due plainly to our economic poverty. In some cases social workers have come upon the scene, but the average social worker is woefully inadequate when called on to administer to all the needs of the people.

The problem therefore, comes back to the same old story: we cannot solve our problems by withdrawing to ourselves OUTSIDE of the field of conflict. Some personal activity, some personal sacrifice and some fight will have to be put into the solution of the crime problem of our people.

We must have Negro policemen, in all our larger cities, particularly where hiding is so easy. We must have better homes for more people; we must have better streets, more playgrounds, better schools and better schooling; and to get these things we *must REGISTER AND VOTE!* There is no way around it.

Says Fair Chance Will Cut Crimes

BALTIMORE. — The high crime and death rate of the colored American can be ended by according to him merely the opportunity to earn a decent living and the right to enjoy the fruits of his labor, Mrs. Eunice Hunton Carter, assistant district attorney of New York County, said here on Saturday.

Speaking at the annual luncheon of the Co-operative Women's Civic League, Mrs. Carter addressed 200 men and women assembled to mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the league and the silver anniversary of the presidency of that organization by Mrs. Sarah Collins Fernandis.

Criminals Not Born

Criminals, the New Yorker said, are made, not born. You cannot, she pointed out, look into the eyes of a baby and say here is a thief, here is a prostitute. Social and economic conditions are to be blamed, she said.

The speaker deplored poverty which exists in this nobless generation, and poverty which goes on from generation to generation without hope of escape.

She said that living too close to people and too close to the fringes of starvation, and the fear that even this fringe may at any time be taken away, tends towards frayed nerves, which naturally result in crimes of violence.

Deceny Dulled

A man who has property interest in a community is not the kind of man from which a criminal is made, but crowding dulls the sense of decency, the speaker said.

A recent Government survey shows that the highest crime rate develops in the 18-19-year-old group, and unemployment, unsatisfactory home conditions and lack of any pleasures are the chief causes, according to Mrs. Hunton.

At 19 nothing is so important to a boy as having a dime to take a girl to the movies; and at 16, nothing is so important to the girl as having a new dress to wear to movies with the boy who is taking her.

At homes where there is not enough money to provide the necessary milk for the younger children, opportunity for crime is always present, the speaker said.

Betterment Seen

There is the other side of the picture, Mrs. Carter said. There is encouragement in increased educational opportunities, and in organizations allied with the governmental agencies to better conditions.

This, however, she pointed out, is only temporary, and asked: "What is to happen when this help is withdrawn?"

Must Use Franchise

"None of us," she said, "has the privileges by divine right. The spinning of the wheel of fate gave us or our parents enough foresight to see opportunities and make use of them.

"It is our obligation to share what we have . . . our spirit. It is our obligation to participate in civic movements, and in political organizations.

"Take an active part in politics, begin by asking for what is wanted and what is needed and end by demanding because of your strength. It doesn't matter what side of the fence you're on, but that you make your franchise felt," Mrs. Carter said.

Honor Mrs. Fernandis

Mrs. Carter was presented by Miss Mae T. Wright. Mrs. John Woodhous presided at the luncheon.

Mrs. Sarah Collins Fernandis, first and only president of the league during twenty-five years of the organization's existence, was presented an engraved silver loving cup. The presentation was made by Mrs. Mabel Queen.

Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald
March 29, 1939

The Negro And The Law

It has been our contention for years that too many Southern white judges, jurors and law enforcement officers have had a tendency to be lenient with Negro defendants in all-Negro criminal cases. Leading Southern Negroes and, in recent years, some Southern white judges and law enforcement officers have concurred in this opinion.

In Birmingham Police Judge Henry Martin and Judge H. B. Abernethy, who hear most of the cases involving Negroes in this county, have decided that Negro defendants in all-Negro cases should be prosecuted just as vigorously as are white defendants. Both judges have found that such an attitude has been helpful in protecting Negro residents from criminal activities among their own people. Leaders among Negroes have praised this attitude of the jurists and say that it is bearing good fruit.

But the South is not the only section in which more attention should be paid to the criminal problems among the Negroes. Only recently a Negro member of the New York Assembly introduced a bill to prohibit the possession of "switch blade knives," weapons which the bill's author insisted were "just as dangerous as machine guns and pistols."

At first white members of the New York Assembly refused to take the "switch blade knife" measure seriously. Most of them had never seen a "switch blade knife." They doubted that the weapon could be as dangerous as the Negro legislator described it.

The Negro assemblyman, however, drew a "switch blade" from his pocket on the floor of the assembly hall and brandished it. With expert motions he moved the knife through the air, sending chills up the backs of the lawmakers.

The assemblymen saw the knife, noticed the expert manner in which it was handled, got the point. They outlawed the use of the "switch blades."

Here was another case of the white lawmakers overlooking a problem that affected many, many Negro residents of New York. The white men did not appreciate the depth of this seemingly minor problem. Yet every Negro in New York has known for years the danger of such a weapon among his people.

Sometimes we wonder, if right here in Birmingham, it would not be a good idea for public officials, law enforcement officers, judges and others who occupy important places in our governments, local and state, to consult regularly with committees of leading Negroes on the problems affecting their people—not just the problems involving relationships with white people, but the numerous problems among Negroes that so often are never known by many white persons.

PRISON REFORMS DISCUSSED BY SOCIOLOGISTS

Penal Institutions To Shed Walls in Future, Speaker Says

By WALTER A. SMITH

The prison of tomorrow, a walless, liberal institution dedicated to the task of furnishing prisoners with "an atmosphere of more normal living," was described by L. F. Chapman, superintendent of the Florida State Prison System in an address before the Southern Sociological convention here Saturday.

Discussing modern trends in penology at the final session of the two-day convention, Mr. Chapman said the larger prisons of today are gigantic laboratories, "experimenting with the building of personalities and character."

The prison of tomorrow, he said, should have no stone walls surrounding it. In its place, he advocated a good stout fence.

Florida Is Cited

A triple industrial fence surrounding the Florida State Prison, he said, furnishes the security of a wall "with none of the evils of a wall."

"Hidden behind walls," he explained, "prisoners note unceasingly these masonries, speculate on the foundations, the probable thickness, methods of scaling.

"The wall is imbedded in their very souls.

"Finally, in the presence of this standing challenge, prisoners are willing to brave rifles and teargas on an assault on the wall."

At the Florida prison, he said, "1,800 men watch a ball game, yelling, applauding, booing and never a glance at the fence. There's nothing but God's countryside beyond the fence, cattle in the fields, cars on the highway, all a familiar aspect."

Prisoner's Letter Quoted

To show the effect of that situation, Mr. Chapman quoted as follows from a letter written by a prisoner:

"This is a funny place. They give you just enough liberty to make you realize what you are missing. You can see and walk about and wave at cars and have visitors in the park and never think of escaping. You only think what a fool you are to do things that get you shut away from the best of life."

The speaker emphasized that "a wholesome atmosphere rather than a forbidding one is best in prison. Normal living will find a deeper response in winning men from crime than regimentation. In prison life, waste must be abolished by enrichment of personal worth."

He advocated freer use of parole and probation, limiting of prison population to 1,500 persons for each institution, and greater freedom for wardens in determining policies of prison operation.

"Normal Living" Elements

Mr. Chapman listed cleanliness, obedience to authority, work, elimination of mystery from everyday affairs, and constant mental expansion as other necessary elements in preserving "normal living" for prisoners.

Prison rules should be few and simple, the penologist said, but no infraction of them should be overlooked.

"Prisoners should know the justice of imprisonment, the sanity of discipline, the source of detainers and their nature, the theory of pardons, and the rewards of a change of face Knowledge is mental health, absence of which invites a feverish mentality which breeds social miasmas," he declared.

Mr. Chapman urged work for prisoners, and stated public clamor against this practice "passes my understanding."

Crime Cause Aanalyzed

"Crime itself is usually the violent effort to live without work," he asserted. "To permit a prisoner to live in idleness and ease, receiving meanwhile creature comforts of food, clothing, shelter, entertainment and hospitalization, confirms him in the false philosophy that had damned to extinction a generation of the old nobility in many nations.

"In such a case the prison itself recomes criminal."

Other speakers discussing the prison problem at the Saturday session of the convention included J. Herman Johnson, of Alabama Polytechnic Institute, who discussed the Alabama parole system.

Another section of the final day discussion was devoted to race and culture problems. Among the speakers in this group was Ralph M. Davis, of the department of records and research at Tuskegee Institute.

4 Fugitives Killed As Auto Hits Bus

ATLANTA, May 27.—(AP)—Four negroes, pursued by police, were killed early today in the collision of their automobile and a Jacksonville-Atlanta bus at a street intersection.

Three of the 21 passengers aboard the bus were injured slightly.

Radio Patrolmen William Lasseter and Durell Fuller reported they were chasing the car and had clocked its speed at 70 miles an hour shortly before the crash. They said they had warned the negroes earlier to go home because of the late hour.

Captain Neal Ellis quoted C. O. Hendrix, Chattanooga, driver of the bus, as saying he was traveling about 25 miles an hour and the force of the collision disabled his air brakes. The bus climbed on top the automobile, crushing the four negroes.

Hospital aides treated Mrs. Alma Virden and her 16-year-old son of Greensboro, N. C., for slight abrasions and an unidentified negro for a head injury.

7 GEORGIA CONVICTS FLEE

Bind Farm Captain and Guard and Escape in Former's Car

ALBANY, Ga., Nov. 25 (AP)—Seven convicts escaped the Dougherty County prison farm today after binding their guards with strips of sheets and slashing another on the hand.

Captain L. B. Herring said the break was made while he was killing hogs in the barnyard, assisted by Clayton Smith, another guard.

"I asked Smith to go to the cells to get a couple of Negroes to help me," Captain Herring said, "and when he didn't return in a reasonable time I went to the jail to see what the trouble was.

"As I reached the door leading to the cells the men jumped on me and held a knife to my throat and put a pistol in my ribs. I saw Smith had been bound and gagged and was locked in one of the cells. As I was grabbed, one of the men cut me twice on the hand, not seriously. The convicts tore up a sheet bound me and took the key to my car from Smith."

Captain Herring said the men who escaped were Walter Timmons, under life sentence for murder; A. S. Ross, serving a term for burglary and five negro prisoners.

City Prison Addition Will Replace Property Sold

Construction of a new building and a hospital ward at the City Prison Farm was planned Thursday as city officials completed a deal under which present prison property on Hilliard Street will be sold to the Atlanta Housing Authority. The Hilliard Street building now is used as a negro men's prison.

A check for $38,500, price agreed upon for the prison property, will be turned over to Mayor Hartsfield Friday morning by A. R. Dorsen, treasurer of the Housing Authority.

The Mayor already has approved the sale and completed signing of deeds for the transfer of the property.

The negro men's prison building faces Hilliard near Decatur Street and the rear of the property is on Fort Street.

The building will be razed by the Housing Authority and the property included in the site for the Henry Grady Homes, low cost housing project.

The prisoners now housed on Hilliard Street will be moved to the prison farm as soon as quarters are provided there. Plans for the new building are being drafted and will be completed within a few days.

Councilman Charles L. Chosewood, prison committee chairman, expressed the hope that the fund will be sufficient to provide a badly needed hospital ward at the prison farm.

Table Is Turned On Dublin Negro Who Prosecuted

(Telegraph's Georgia News Service)

DUBLIN, Nov. 22.—Two Negroes, Wash James and Charlie Daniel, stood acquitted of charges of armed robbery, capital offense under Georgia law, by a jury in superior court here today, while their prosecutor, Genie Scott, also colored, has been arrested under a warrant charging perjury.

An uncommon feature of the case was the parade of law enforcement officers as defense witnesses, though officers customarily appear as witnesses for the state, Defense Counsel W. W. Isarsen Jr., and Stanley Reese several officers, including a deputy sheriff, the jailer, a temporary court bailiff, two patrolmen, the former chief of police and the present chief to the stand to testify for the defense.

The principal testimony of these officers was alleged conflicting statements made by the prosecutor in seeking their aid in his alleged robbery.

The case attracted interest because of several unusual features, taking an entire day to try, and the jury being out less than five minutes in reaching a verdict. They had hardly filed from the box before a deputy sheriff served the perjury warrant on the prosecutor.

The punishment for perjury is from four to 10 years. Assistant Solicitor W. H. White, who conducted the prosecution, announced his readiness to prosecute the perjury case.

PAROLED NEGRO BACK AT WORK

Tarrell Bryant's Conduct Ends Freedom at Cairo

(Telegraph's Georgia News Service)

CAIRO, Nov. 29—Tarrell Bryant, a Macon Negro who was paroled from the state highway camp near here, was returned to the camp today to finish his one to five year sentence, following a disturbance here Saturday night in which he was shot by Policeman Paul Knight, Chief of Police J. W. Thomas stated.

Bryant was sent up from Macon for burglary and had served about a year when he was paroled recently, according to Chief Thomas, who said he had given local officers trouble since his parole prior to Saturday night.

Assistant Chief Stacy Williams and Policeman Knight responded when the disturbance developed Saturday night in the street at a Negro cafe in the outer edge of the business section. They said Bryant had cut another Negro and that he was attempting to wield his knife when Policeman Knight fired, inflicting a slight flesh wound on his shoulder.

Bryant was arrested and held by city officers until instructions were received from state parole officials in Atlanta to return him to the camp.

He Wanted To Go Back To School

THE PLEA of a local youth to a judge of the criminal court that he had stolen over three hundred dollars worth of stationery from a paper jobber because he wanted to go back to school, is the extent that some unfortunate young people would go in an effort to obtain an education. To desire an education is a laudable motive. One seeks a high service through better equipment and proficiency. Many young people today are in school on their sheer industry and sacrificial ingenuity. They are making bricks without straw. Many of them do not even have the good wishes, to say nothing of the cooperation of their parents. But this motive for higher and nobler things through the process of education can hardly be harmonized with theft. That belongs to the lower motives of human beings. It divests our friends and neighbors of their belongings without their consent and to their disadvantage and places one in the low category of excuseless crimes.

Our schools stand for all that is noble. They have gone a long way in helping youth and through the endowments and Youth Administration, they are helping hundreds of deserving youths to their goal. In addition to this many of the schools have students loan funds available to those worthy students. Some schools allow students liberal credit. In that they are allowed to finish their courses and pay when they work.

With these liberal advantages there is no excuse for anyone stealing in an effort to get an education. Such people do not belong in the arena where the educated man and women perform their tasks. This is only one incident that happened to come from cover.

There are many young people who would enter our colleges for the purpose of preparing themselves for usefulness. It is a noble motive that impels youth to seek this field of usefulness. That motive cannot however be harmonized with the low morals of theft which suggest that they can be stepping stones to that high goal.

If one cannot obtain an education by honorable means in the face of the numerous agencies to help, it would be better to remain uneducated.

Two Men Sought In Robbery Of Youth

Two white men were sought by city police Monday in connection with the Sunday night robbery of 17-year-old George Wheeler, of Stafford street, N. W., address a drug store delivery boy.

According to police reports the men apparently used the ruse of making an order for goods to be delivered to an Oglethorpe street, N. W., address and waited in a parked automobile until the delivery boy appeared on the

Wheeler told the officers he went to the Oglethorpe street address and was told by occupants of the address that no one there had made an order. When he started to his bicycle, two white men got out of a car and stopped the youth, one of them getting in front and the other behind. A pistol was used to carry out the threat. Wheeler said the robbers took $5 off his person.

Accused Swindler Convicted

Find White Man Guilty in $250 Property Case

A white man accused of larceny after trust from a dead colored man and his widow Wendesday was convicted in Fulton Superior Criminal Court. The trial jury returned a one-to-three-year verdict, but recommended the case be treated as a misdemeanor.

The convicted man, C. J. Camp, white, about 36 years of age, is expected to hear sentence from Judge Paul D. Etheridge today.

Camp had been convicted in the same case on February 11, 1938, but was given a new trial following hearing. At the last trial, a sentence of from two to four years was recommended by the trial jury.

PAID CAMP $350

Camp was accused of larceny after trust of $250 from the late George Williams, of 230 Sampson Street. According to testimony, Williams gave the white man the money in purchase of the Sampson Street property on September 22, 1936. The money was reported misappropriated and later Williams died. Repercussions from the act affected the colored man's widow, who sought prosecution of Camp. Defense sought to prove that Camp paid Williams back the $250 in a number of deeds.

Solicitor Quincy O. Arnold prosecuted the defendant.

After Midnight

BY THE POLICE REPORTER

FOR many nights the Negro trusty at City Hall had been at the beck and call of officers and desk sergeants.

He had been an efficient worker, this darky, who had no name other than "Trusty" as far as policemen were concerned.

But no more errand running and odd jobs were in sight now. He was getting out on parole, and late shift men were anticipating a new, inexperienced one.

Judging from his sad face, observers always secretly thought he was ready to amend his ways, once free again after serving a long sentence for driving while intoxicated.

No more dropping around for him when somebody yelled "Trusty" when something was spilled on the floor or somebody wanted tobacco. And no more riding back and forth to the jail in the patrol wagon at supper time, either.

But maybe Trusty was born under an unlucky star—or was it his own choosing?

For when officers went to a Negro hanged shortly after Trusty was freed, they found the occupants "whooping it high."

And in the midst of the crowd was Trusty, creating a panic, brandishing a wicked looking knife.

So Trusty got another ride in the patrol wagon.

Reopen Attempts To Extradite Man

NEW YORK, June 16—Hearings in the case of John Ryals, fugitive sharecropper whom the State of Georgia is trying to extradite from New York were resumed this week before United States Commissioner Isaac Platt, in the Federal Building at Foley Square.

Ryals fled from Clyo, Effingham county, Ga., on June 18, 1937, to escape a lynch mob after he had cut Ulysses Elzey, a white landowner, with a pen-knife while defending himself from a beating and threatened shooting for getting a mule run away. Ryals left a wife and seven children in Georgia.

Finally reaching New York, the former sharecropper got work as janitor, where according to tenants, he gave excellent service until the State of Georgia instituted extradition proceedings against him this year. His wife and five of the children meanwhile joined him.

Governor Lehman, after hearing all evidence in the case, refused to sign extradition papers whereupon Georgia had Ryals indicted under a federal statute originally aimed at kidnappers and known as the Lindburgh Law.

Thomasville, Ga., Wkly. Times-Ent.
October 13, 1939

COLORED LEADERS PLAN TO REDUCE CRIME IN COUNTY

Education of Youth to Dangers That Await Them Is Object of Program

The following article has been submitted to the Times-Enterprise by the Rev. G. H. Kennedy, colored, for publication. It deals with a plan which he hopes, in connection with others of his race, and of the public generally, to bring about a reduction of crime in Thomas county.

He states that he hopes to be able to carry on a sort of educational work among the people of his race, designed to show the causes leading up to crime and the results thereof.

It is carried in this paper, as a matter of news to those at interest. It follows:

Thomas County Crime Reduction Program

It appears that human life is becoming so cheap that a very little fear is manifested by the lawless element.

There is a cause for every crime committed. It is supposed that ignorance is the major cause of all crimes. Education is the only remedy for this great enemy (ignorance) of man-kind. It is not sufficient to say education is the only remedy, unless we classify the type of education, secular education does not help much, but, Christian education will do the work.

In order to get this Christian education, a text book is essential in all schools. Since the state of Georgia has through the board of education agreed to allow God's book to be taught in public schools, but made no provision to pay an instructor, it is up to the Christian people to supply this much needed fund.

The promoters of this program are urging the churches of Jesus Christ, especially in Thomas county to respond liberally toward the support of this worty cause.

The Plan Of Operation

1—Clubs are t obe organized in the following named places: Thomasville, Ochlochnee, Meigs, Coolidge, Patten, Pavo, Barwick, Boston, Eason Crossing (Ninety-Five), Glasgow, Metcalfe, and other points where there may be a school or church. These clubs shall be known as "Crime Reduction Clubs."

The Work Of The Club

Weekly meetings are to be held, and every member should be urged to buy, own and study a Bible.

A check up on any disorder that may be in the community, but not to take any one to the court of the land, unless it si impossible to regulate the affair.

We have permission from the superintendent of public schools, Miss Nichols, to talk ten or fifteen minutes a day in the colored schools of Thomas county, provided we do not ask for remuneration.

The club in the city shall be requested to do all that may be in their power to check conditions on West Jackson St., on Saturday and Sunday night.

Our objective will be to prevent crime, rather than punish those who commit crime.

If a check-up is made on all the prisoners in the camps and in jail, not one will be found to be a Bible student nor a church goer.

This appears to be a challenge to the Christians in Thomas county, regardless to denomination, race or color.

G. H. Kennedy,

Another Defendant Gets Life

Jurors Debate Ten Minutes, Give Man Chair

A jury in Fulton Superior Court Wednesday took less than ten minutes to reach a decision in the case of Oscar Fields, charged with statutory offense.

A few minutes later Fields was sentenced to die in the electric chair at Tatnall Prison on January 19 by Superior Judge Virlyn E. Moore.

For the greater portion of two days, Fields was tried for a series of criminal offenses to persons in the University Drive section. The court division was barred to colored spectators during the tense trial of Fields. A number of officers kept guard in the courtroom as the trial proceeded, reportedly to prevent any outbreak against the defendant.

Harlem Wages Determined Fight To Save Boy From Georgia Mob Law

NEW YORK, Nov. 10—A determined fight is being waged by the organizations here to prevent the return of a 14-year-old boy, Willie Lee Butts, to Georgia mob law.

Representatives of the New York Urban League, the N.A.A.C.P., and the Colored Community Service League of Far Rockaway, N. Y., where Butts was living with his parents, prior to his arrest, appeared on his behalf in the children's court here yesterday.

James H. Hubert, executive director of the New York Urban League, and Charles M. Hanson, chairman, Harlem Committee on Public Policy, journeyed to Albany, Friday to confer with Governor Lehman.

They were informed by Nathan R. Sobel, counsel to the governor, that, "on two occasions Governor Lehman has honored a request of the state of Georgia for the rendition of Butts." On September 5, such an application was made for the crime of assault with intent to murder. On October 9, a further application was made—the crime charged being rape."

Judge O'Brien of the Queens county children's court had declared the case "without parallel in the jurisprudence of New York state." A boy whose rights had already been determined and passed upon by the supreme court was again in custody upon a petition to the New York police department.

Sheriff Hightower, failing in his first attempt on a charge of assault, returned from Georgia, having changed the charge to rape. Lest this might not suffice, he obtained affidavits from certain whites in a town several miles distant from Sparta, the boy's home, charging that Butts was more than 16 years of age.

Non-Extraditable

Hubert was informed by the governor's counsel that "on the occasion of the last request, it was not disclosed that the supreme court had passed upon the earlier application on a Writ of Habeas Corpus" which settled his status as a non-extraditable juvenile, and that no request had been made to the governor for special consideration on Butts' behalf.

It is the consensus of opinion—including that of Judge O'Brien, presiding justice of the children's court, that all the forces of law are arraigned against the boy. Not to be outdone, the Georgia sheriff, failing in his charge of assault, returned with an indictment for rape. When Judge O'Brien ruled that "a child is not a criminal, and cannot be a fugitive from justice under any theory," the Georgia sheriff then argued with the support of the Federal District Attorney that the boy is over 16.

Future Dark

A petition filed by Mr. Hubert on behalf of the Urban League that the boy be remanded to the Children's Society on the ground of neglect was withdrawn on objections of the District Attorney. Butts was immediately arrested and is being held in the detention home preceding a hearing before the Federal Commission on Nov. 8.

In discharging the boy, Judge O'Brien concluded, "The future looks dark for the boy after he leaves this court. Every step should be followed by those who have volunteered legal aid and those names have been recorded here and should vigilantly watch every step of the proceedings. I know they will do that."

In a letter to Mr. Hubert the governor's counsel writes: "I assume that we may expect new papers to be presented to the governor. May I assure you that your comments will receive the governor's very serious consideration, and that before any action is taken by the governor I shall be very happy to communicate with you."

County To Save $30,000 Annually Closing Negro Penal Camp

Problem of 55 Prisoners at Women's Penal Farm Will Be Referred to the State; Dodd's Program Gets Unanimous Approval.

Plans for abandoning the Fulton county negro women's prison camp as a $30,000-a-year economy move were announced yesterday by Fulton county commissioners in special session to approve further recommendations for the new program at the white industrial farm, including a change in its name to the Fulton County Vocational and Industrial School for Boys.

Commissioners Ed Almand, Gloer Hailey and Dr. Charles R. Adams, those present, concurred unanimously in Ira H. Dodd's selection of personnel and plans for operating the reform school as an educational institution.

Move Set for December 1.

Almand, board chairman, said that the negro women's prison camp, where some 85 prisoners are now kept, will be abandoned as of December 1, and that the county will save, as the result, approximately $30,000 a year.

Frank Eaves, building superintendent, was authorized to remodel a section of the negro alms house as detention quarters for about 30 negro women prisoners and the remainder will be turned over to the state.

"The state does not want to take our prisoners because they haven't any money," A. A. Clarke, warden and superintendent of public roads, told the commissioners. He quoted Grover C. Byars, chairman of the board of penal corrections, as saying that the state may have to leave the women in jail because it has no place to put them in camps.

"It's the State's Duty."

"We can't help that," remarked Almand. "It's the stat'e duty to care for them and we have got to turn them over to the state." The county has been maintaining the negro women convicted of misdemeanors in this county. Almand Commissioner J. A. Ragsdale and Clarke are to confer further with Byars next week.

Dodd told the commissioners that the white industrial farm is running "smoother than I expected."

His staff, approved by the commissioners, follows:

W. H. Maxwell, shop foreman; L. C Pirkle, farm superintendent; L. W Brown, athletic director; Mrs. L. M Brown, secretary - stenographer; Tom Harper, guard; Joe A. Reed, agricultural assistant; Claude W. Lowry, shop assistant; H. A. Hall, cook; H. M. White nightwatchman; J. F. Davis, nightwatchman; Mrs. Marie A. Coons, head of the academic department; Mrs. W. H. Maxwell, assistant teacher; Clarence Shirley, farm helper, and H. M. Dodson, guard.

He asked for Tom Scoggins, juvenile probation officer, as his parole officer but was persuaded by commissioners to hold up this appointment. Scoggins was discharged from the white industrial farm earlier this year in a shakeup.

Commissioners promised to "take care" of employes who will be let out November 15 when Edgar Gunn, representing the employes' union, appeared in behalf of two of them.

Moultrie, Ga., Weekly Observer
January 20, 1939

FEWER PERSONS JAILED IN 193[8]

More white men were committed to jail last year in Colquitt county than Negroes, it was disclosed today by records compiled by Sheriff T. V. Beard for his annual report.

A total of 224 white males were confined in the county jail during the twelve months period, compared to 212 Negroes. In addition, 16 white women were placed under arrest and committed to jail, compared to 50 Negro women.

Nine lunacy cases were handled by the sheriff's office during 1938.

A total of 503 persons, Sheriff Beard said, were jailed during the past twelve months, which was some five per cent less than the preceding year.

Atlantan Gets Term Of 1 Year

Fleeced Colored Estate Out Of $250 Payment

ATLANTA, Ga.—(SNS)—

C. J. Camp, white, real estate dealer, received a term of twelve months for larceny after trust of $250 from a deceased colored man and his widow in a Thursday sentence by Fulton Superior Judge Paul D. Etheridge. The trial jury Wednesday recommedned a misdemeanor in the case, which usually carries a 1-to-3-year penalty.

Camp was convicted of taking the money in trust from the late George Williams of 30 Sampson Street, of misapplying it and failing to remit it to the estate or to the heirs later. The money was to have been applied in the purchase of the Sampson Street property in 1936, it was said.

The white man had stood trial once, being convicted and granted a new trial. The Williams widow aided the solicitor in the prosecution evidence, it was stated. Camp immediately posted a $500 appeal bond.

A Superior Court jury returned a guilty verdict in the double robbery trial of LeRoy Leonard. Leonard was meted a three-to-five year term. He was charged with robbing a Butler St. store and a pedestrain. Leonard accused police of beating him up to secure a confession in the cases.

Jessie Foster received a 15-year sentence in a robbery case in the court of Superior Judge Hugh M. Dorsey, but half of it was suspended on good behavior. Foster was also convicted in two misdemeanor counts, the terms to follow in the suspended portion of the robbery sentence. An assault and battery charge was not pressed against Foster.

Jim Boddy was meted a twelve months' sentence following his conviction in the January theft of a fur coat from Miss Mary Thomas, of a Solomon Street address. A similar term was given Nathaniel Wynn in the January 16 theft of a radio from Mrs. Maggie Gum of a Mitchell Street address.

Will Bronner, alias "Bear," pleaded guilty to burglary and was given a light term by Judge Etheridge. Accussed with receiving stolen goods from "Bear" and pawning it, S. L. Long was acquitted because of a previously good record.

Whites Deliberately Kill Schoolboy With Auto: Entire Village Aroused

Americus, Ga., Citizens Join In Man-hunt For Callous Killers—Every Bone In Nine-Year-Old Boy's Body Broken.

AMERICUS, Ga., March 16. (Special)—Aroused by the apparent deliberate running down and killing near here Monday of Lewis Mitchell, 9-year-old schoolboy, who was struck by an automobile containing two unidentified white men, as he was walking home from school with several young companions, beside the Oglethorpe Highway, both colored and white citizens are cooperating with authorities in their search for the occupants of the hit-and-run death car.

According to investigating state Highway Patrol officers and the companions of the small victim of the tragedy, the automobile left the pavement before reaching the little group of schoolboys, swerved onto the shoulder of the road where they were walking, and struck the Mitchell child, hurling him twenty feet. Struck a glancing blow by the hurtling body, one of his schoolmates was knocked into a ditch.

Medical examiners said practically every bone in the victim's body had been broken, and that death was instantaneous. A brown cap he was wearing at the time could not be found. Later it was to prove a clue to the identity of the killers, when a farmer reported he had seen a black coupe with two white men in it on a road leading to Columbus; that it was traveling fast, but he noticed the right front fender was buckled and a boy's brown cap was hanging from the door handle on the same side.

Worker Pays Big Interest For $5 Loan

3-24-39

SAVANNAH, Ga., March 24 — Because he was found to have charged an underpaid millhand 432 percent interest on a five dollar loan, M. M. Parrish, white, was fined $600 Saturday by Judge B. B. Henry in city court Saturday.

In passing sentence upon Parrish, Judge Heery admonished all persons engaged in like activities to take heed. "Every case of this nature brought to my attention will be prosecuted to the limit," he said.

CHARGED 432 PERCENT

Parrish was convicted by a jury Thursday which recommended the "extreme mercy" of the court.

He was charged with exacting interest at the rate of 432 percent per annum from Abraham Hunter, power company employe. The fine was immediately paid.

Judge Heery, in passing entence on the 65-year-old defendant, also commended the Savannah Bar Association's fine report baring the salary buying and small loan racket.

He said, "I shall lend all the assistance I have in trying to eliminate this practice in our community."

Judge Heery gave strong endorsement to the Georgia movement of Savannah origin to stamp out the practice of collecting excessive interest.

ENDORSES CAMPAIGN

Anyone reading the Savannah Bar Association's recent report on salary buying and small loans in Chatham county would be impressed with the amount of work which a special committee put in the task, the jurist said, and he wanted to compliment the association as well as grand juries, the newspapers and others for bringing the wrongs to public light.

While heeding the mercy request of the trial jury and certain points raised by Defense Attorney Aaron Kravitch, Judge Heery made it plain the fine was not to be judged as a precedent for handling similar cases arising later.

Hunter testified in the trial of the case that he borrowed $5 and paid interest at the rate of $1.80 every two weeks.

Macon Ga Telegraph
April 12, 1939

POWERS AND DUTIES OF JUDGES

To the Editor of The Telegraph:

Traveling here and there over the many counties of the state I never pass up an opportunity to drop into the courthouses when superior court is in session. All my days I have had a keen desire for viewing the machinery of the law as it dealt with the people whom it was designed to protect.

When only a youth I sat in the courtroom with my dad in Dawson while a young tenant farmer was on trial for his life. Old "Will" Worrill was on the bench. The statement of the defendant was to the effect that the landlord had undertaken to take away from him all his hard-earned part of the crop and a fierce fight ensued, the result of which was the death of the landlord.

The wealthy widow and her sons had employed an imposing array of counsel to put the rope around the neck of the young poverty-stricken tenant who could not employ council, but had to make out with an attorney appointed by Judge Worrill. After the acquittal of the tenant prosecuting counsel intimated to the stern old judge that his favorable rulings and his charge to the jury had given the young man his freedom and cheated the gallows. The old judge's answer to that veiled charge was this: "Any time that I know a man is to come before me with his liberty or his life at stake I make it my business to ascertain as far as it is humanly possible for me to do so the innocence or guilt of the prisoner at the bar; then I hunt me up some laws to back me in the conduct of that trial according to justice and right. Any time the people of this circuit get tired of my way of running the courts they have their remedy at the ballot box. In the meantime, I'm running the courts of the Pataula circuit according to the dictates of my own conscience and my understanding of right and wrong as between man and man and in the presence of the Almighty."

For several years it has been my great privilege to sit in the courtrooms of the Pataula circuit with that same old hard-boiled judge's son on the bench. Yes, Charlie Worrill is truely a "chip off the old block". When they step into his courtroom they all look alike to Charlie and the man who starts any monkey business finds himself in jail for "contempt of court."

The time has not come when Negroes can sit in the jury boxes nor practice law before the bars of Georgia and serve the present and future best interests of all the people of this great state and nobody knows it better than the intelligent Negro himself.

You may follow Judge Worrill in all the many counties of this state where he has ruled from the bench and you'll find not one single instance where the Jim Crow law has not been observed in toto and the Negro knows that his own best interest is being served.

No case will find its way to the supreme court of this nation on appeal from Judge Worrill's court—as in the Scottsboro case—where nine men can say to Georgia: "You aren't capable of running your courts down there unless you allow the Negro to participate on equal terms of authority as we do it here in the North."

Charlie Worrill invokes the "Jimcro" law, refusing counsel the privilege of making the "point," to protect the best interests of all the people.

Unless we want trouble and plenty of it our superior judges of this state had better start right now and nip it in the bud while the nipping is good.

No officer in this state—the governor not excepted—has as much power as the superior court judge. Ask the first one you meet, then look up your law for yourself.

The president of these United States has no authority over the judge of your circuit and his courts. He is absolute ruler over his courts and can deputize every sheriff and all the deputies in this state, if he feels it necessary, to carry out an order from the bench. J. N. FOREMAN.

Norman Park.

Atlanta Ga Journal
April 3, 1939

Alleged Gambler Shot to Death in Attack on Officer

In a fight early Monday morning in an alley in the rear of 263 Mangum Street, Patrolman E. T. Payne was injured, and Otis Wright, a negro, was killed, when a bullet fired by the officer struck him in the side near the heart.

Officer Payne and his partner, Patrolman Vernon West, reported they discovered a dice game in progress in a negro house at 263 Mangum Street and had arrested several negroes who were participating in the game.

Wright, police reported, escaped from the house and was chased by Patrolman Payne. When he recaptured Wright, Officer Payne said, the negro began fighting and struck him over the head. The officer said he then fired one time at the negro.

Other policemen who rushed to the scene carried Officer Payne and the negro to Grady Hospital. The negro was pronounced dead upon arrival. Officer Payne, after receiving treatment, was dismissed from the hospital.

Macon Ga Telegraph
April 14, 1939

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE

Think for Yourself and Let Others Enjoy the Privilege to Do So.—Voltaire.

ILLITERACY BREEDS CRIME

To the Editor of The Telegraph:

Your editorial in the month of March referring to the homicide record of Macon, was read by the writer of this letter with interest.

I have in hand and have had for some months a map picturing the cities leading in homicides for 1938. Our city, Macon, is outstanding on this map. This map reflects comparatively a hideous picture to the intelligent persons of this city. Your writing about the subject indicates an interest in the matter and possibly disgust.

It might be of interest to you also to seek to find out in Macon and Bibb county the following: Which racial group contributes to this county's large number of homicides. What age group or groups contribute the larger number of offenders. What might be some of the contributing forces to the many homicides and other offenses.

To answer in my way the foregoing, I refer to the 1936 crime report of Macon and Bibb county. Sorry I do not have same for 1938. That year there was a total of eighteen homicides and all eighteen among Negroes. Four persons plead guilty, six were convicted, two nol prossed, and six acquitted. This indicated 100 per cent homicide offenses does not stand by itself for 69.6 per cent of the assaults were Negro, 61.6 per cent of the robberies, 79.5 per cent of the burglaries, 19.3 per cent of the auto larcenies, and 41.7 per cent of all other offenses were committed by Negroes. In other words Negroes fell heirs to 64.3 per cent of all the offenses tried in Bibb superior court that year. Persons between the ages of 16 and 27 years committed 13 of these homicides. Since the report shows that only seven of all offenses, a total of 193, were committed by persons over 45 years of age, and 117 of the total offenses were committed by Negroes, it is fair to conclude, I think, from this data that all other offenses were committed within the age limit of from 16 to 45.

Why then does society pay so dearly for these offenses? Why must you who have fought maladys of society yet face embarrassment because of these offenses by the minority group? The educational study of the offenders in the Bibb superior court gives part of the answer. The report shows that 51.2 per cent were illiterate. Who is to blame? Thirty-nine and nine-tenths per cent only attended grammar school. Why did they quit? Six and five-tenths per cent completed grammar school. Why didn't they continue? One and six-tenths per cent attended high school. Only .8 per cent completed high school. Not one single offender had ever attended college. Apparently educational facilities in our democracy did not stretch forth its arms and engulf these individuals.

While the report goes further to explain where the crimes were committed and where the offenders resided, the explanation on the map is too vague to be used. But may I just bring to your attention that the Negro man and woman between the ages of 16 to 27 finds that he becomes a fit subject for the streets and dives as the shadow of evening falls, for he has no place to go for pleasure except to the show or to a dive. He has no recreational center to which he might go. You who largely pay the bills to maintain the Bibb superior court might divert your funds for greater social value by placing means to develop a municipal center for Negro recreation, and more assistance in the equipment of our educational institutions in this city and county in order that each might hold the Negro youth of Macon and help them adjust themselves.

Low wages and poor living conditions of course make a large contribution to the present condition. But our Negro youth will have a better outlook and alleviate in part this condition if the former conditions are rectified.

Play today is recognized as an important part of every one's life. The Negroes of Macon and Bibb county will continue to contribute more to crime and maliciousness so long as no better facilities are offered for his giving vent to his pent-up energies. M. R. HARRIS.

Macon.

Seek Whites Who Threatened Life Of Atlantan

Atlanta World
Atlanta, Ga.
1-29-39

Police are seeking three white terrorists, who are said to have gone to the residence of Thomas Murray of 326 Henry Street late Friday night and threatened the victim and his family.

Neighbors told a WORLD reporter that the men forced their way into Murray's house, cursed him, and accused him of owing them some money for some candy.

They stated that Mrs. Myrtice Murray, the wife of the victim, ran out of the house. When the men left they are said to have told Murray that they were "coming back after him."

Several car loads of officers are reported to have arrived at the scene and left after questioning Murray. After the officers left, neighbors said that Murray came back and took his family away and had not been seen since.

File $100,000 Suit Against Chicago Daily

A suit, asking $100,000 damages, was filed on April 4 by Atty. George C. Adams and his wife, Mrs. Minerva J. Adams, against a local Chicago daily.

The complaint charges fraud, misrepresentation and conspiracy on the part of certain officials and correspondents of the newspaper growing out of a series of articles concerning 'spiritualism' published by the paper in which "fraudulent materialization" was charged.

Attorney and Mrs. Adams, in their suit, allege that there was no deception perpetrated at the seances mentioned, and that they are willing and able to prove that the materializations were conducted free of possible fraud or suspicion.

'SPITE' ARSONIST ESCAPES CHAIR; GETS LIFE SENTENCE

William Warren, 21-year-old 'revenge arsonist", who set fire to a kitchenette firetrap which claimed the lives of eight occupants, was given two consecutive terms of 99 years each on Monday morning by Judge William J. Lindsay. Warren pleaded guilty to two charges of murder.

The youth, a former janitor of the kitchenette, was examined earlier in the day and pronounced sane by a corps of psychiatrists. It was upon their findings that the state fought for the death penalty.

Results in Housing Probe

The conflagration, which shocked Chicago out of its lethargy and focused public attention to the acute housing situation on the southside, has resulted in a probe of conditions suffered by Chicago's needy citizenry as a result of restrictive covenants and a housing shortage occasioned by the razing of habitable homes for the delayed government subsidized project on the southside.

Warren, a former inmate at St Charles Home for Boys, testified at a coroner's inquest April 14 that he set fire to a 15-room kitchenette building at 2953 Michigan avenue in order to "get even" with the Rev. James M. Stone, by whom he was formerly employed. Reverend Stone, who holds a lease on the building, stated that he discharged the youth whom he accused of stealing $28 from a tenant.

Claims He Was Underpaid

Warren said the minister only paid him $3 to take care of two buildings, the Michigan avenue kitchenette and the Timothy Baptist church, 3333 Wabash avenue, of which the Reverend Stone is pastor. Warren had set fire to the church before igniting a pile of rubbish in the basement of the kitchenette. The blaze was discovered and extinguished by the minister before any serious damage could be done.

The kitchenette building was fired at 1:30 a. m., on April 11. All of the occupants in the ramshackle and 45-year-old edifice were asleep. Three victims died of injuries sustained when they jumped from the third floor to avoid being burned alive. There was only one stairway in use and it was a mass of flames when the blaze was discovered.

The other five victims, all children, were burned to death in the fire which gutted the building and threatened adjoining property. Warren was arrested at Michael Reese hospital when police, becoming suspicious when he boasted of many rescues, attributed to firemen, nabbed him for questioning.

Says Policy Makes Us Believe We Can Get Something For Nothing

By W. ELLIS STEWART

Member of the Chicago Recreation Commission who was invited to give his opinion on the subject.

THE CHICAGO RECREATION COMMISSION recently in making recommendations to the Mayor had this to say in reference to gambling:

"Gambling and liquor constitute the most expensive items in our bill for commercial recreation, and it is notorious that they are the most socially recalcitrant. They displace constructive solid values in recreation and in other human satisfaction. They demoralize individuals, homes and family life; they corrupt municipal administration, and they almost always set up a partnership with criminality and crooked politics."

I am in accord with the view taken by the Recreation Commission, and I am against all forms of commercialized gambling. I believe that the "policy racket" is one of the worst forms of gambling in that it does not cater alone to those who seek it out but uses salesmen to carry it into the homes and residential districts and thereby tends to break down the moral stamina of the entire community. Children, in their play on their way to and from school see the wide use that adults are making of this game and are naturally influenced thereby.

POLICY RACKET MISLEADS YOUTH

The "policy racket" misleads our youth into thinking that they can get something for nothing, thereby destroying thrift and substituting therefor a dependence on chance alone for economic betterment. Under these circumstances, how can we influence our young people to study and struggle through the schools and universities by burning the "mid-night oil" to achieve meager rewards when they are taught by this form of gambling that success comes by chance and not by their own efforts and struggles.

The "policy racket" is economically ruinous in that it takes the nickels and dimes from those who can ill afford to lose them and causes to be sent out of our community for the "fix" and syndicates thousands of dollars, weekly thereby further impoverishing an already impoverished and poor people. The "policy racket" is the poor man's gambling game and encourages him to throw away the money that he otherwise would spend for rent, clothes, food and other necessities of life.

GAME SHOULD BE STAMPED OUT

It is said that there are 10,000 people making a living, more or less out of the operation of the "policy racket" on the South side. If this is true, which I doubt, this means that more than five percent of the 250,000 colored people on the South side of Chicago are engaged in this nefarious business.

The very fact that so many people are engaged therein indicates more than anything else how a racket can engulf and destroy the moral fiber of a people. Why should men engage in legitimate business with its small profits when they can with the consent and backing of their own people so profitably operate in an illegal field? If the "policy racket" was stamped out, many of these folk who have proved themselves excellent business men engaged in this type of thing would turn their activities and energy to building up on the South side a legitimate business which is so badly needed.

What kind of a picture is it that shows a group of people living in a territory such as we have on the South side with five percent of their people engaged in an illegal business and practically all of the legitimate necessary commercial life of their community carried on by other folk? I believe we ought to wake up, stamp out illegal business and build for ourselves a better economy.

AGAINST OUTSIDERS COMING IN

Because I am against "policy" does not mean that I am in favor of driving out the colored men who are engaged therein for the purpose of later substituting for them outsiders to thereby continue the nefarious business. When the city decides that it is going to blot out gambling of every form of commercialized practice, we are ready to raise our voice in driving it likewise out of the South side, but we are not willing to substitute outsiders for our own folk to carry on gambling operations in our district.

S. S. MEDIC'S LIFE MENACED; TREATS KILLER

Expect Capture Momentarily

11-26-39

Although he has so far eluded capture, police this week stated they are confident that the bandit-killer of Vito Addante, white grocer, will soon be apprehended. The killer, who is said to be hiding in the neighborhood of 55th and State strrets, twice defied capture last week when he sought medical attention.

Wounded by the 13-year-old son of his victim as he fled after the slaying last Friday night, Addante's slayer is in immediate danger of infection—and death—unless two bullets from the youth's gun are removed.

Threaten So. Side Medic

Those pellets were still in his wounds when he fled from the office of Dr. F. W. Wand, 5501 Prairie avenue, Saturday after he and a male companion forced the doctor to administer medical treatment to three bullet wounds—one in the right leg, left side and left thigh.

A description of the suspect has been broadcast, and doctors are warned to report any suspicious gunshot wound victims to police immediately.

Companion Brandishes Knife

Dr. Wand, well known southside physician, was forced to give medical aid to a man police believe was Addante's slayer Saturday. A man who accompanied him into the doctor's office stood by, brandishing a knife with a five inch blade while his companion's wounds were being superficially dressed.

While Dr. Wand was treating the suspect his chauffeur, Herman Finley, entered the room. Receiving the doctor's signal that something was amiss, Finley slipped out to call police. The men, apparently becoming suspicious, fled without waiting for completion of the treatment.

Infection Threatens

The bullets were not removed. Police are therefore of the opinion that the man believed responsible for Addante's murder will be captured when he again seeks medical attention for infected wounds. They are also in possession of information which may ultimately trap the killer, but are withholding it for obvious reasons.

Addante was shot and instantly killed by a man who entered his store at 369 E. 54th srteet and robbed him of $10. When the storekeeper fired one shot at the bandit as he fled out the door he was killed by the gunman's return fire.

Victim's Son Wounds Slayer

The slain man's son, Patsy, picked up his father's gun and shot seven times at the man as he fled. Three of the bullets found their mark.

A man believed to be Addante's slayer, applied for treatment at Provident hospital Friday night. Miss Elizabeth Reed, emergency nurse, said he told her he thought he had just killed a man as he lay on the operating table awaiting treatment for bullet wounds in the left leg and side.

Escapes from Hospital

Just then police brought Addante's body in. Nurse Reed said the patient jumped up, cried: "I've got to go now" and fled before she could summon aid. He disappeared in Washington Park. He was described as brown-skinned, with long black hair; age between 30 and 35, height 5 feet 9 or 10 inches, and weight 155 pounds.

Acting on an anonymous call Saturday, 5th district police picked up William Bragg, 5738 Indiana avenue, driver of a jitney cab. Bragg said he drove a man, answering the killer's description, and a woman, neither of whom he knew, to Dr. Wand's office. He said he later dropped them off at 55th and State streets.

Employs Subterfuge

The cab driver's statement that the suspect's companion was a woman was explained by police who said they believed the man who accompanied the wounded man into the doctor's office was waiting for him there. They pointed out that it would have been physically impossible for him to climb the stairs without assistance.

Colored Solon Revamps Indiana's Penal Code

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va. 12-2-39

INDIANAPOLIS — (ANP) —The State's penal code has been revamped and prisoners are now being aided in their efforts to become useful citizens as a result of legislation sponsored by the Rev. M. N. Talley, former member of the Indiana House of Representatives.

His bill became law after passing the Indiana legislature without opposition. It provides for the classification and grouping of all prisoners in correctional and penal institutions of the state, according to psychological and age identifications, for character building and moral and industrial rehabilitation techniques.

Thus the punishment emphasis is minimized in prison life and prisoners are trained for their return to society.

SUPPLY OWN FOOD

Since passage of the law, an 800-acre farm has been purchased by one of the reformatories upon which vast garden crops are grown which provide practically all the food that is needed.

"It is a canning factory," says the Indianapolis Star," which canned over 52,.500 gallons of perishable foods this year, and the season is not yet over."

Orchards are being developed large storage rooms are being built many herds of cattle are being bought and bred, and the milk and dairy products have greatly increased as the result of the passage of this law.

Character and citizenship classes are being taught to bring prisoners into the full meaning and responsibilities of life, thus the new law is revolutionizing the prison life of our offenders to society to say nothing of the reduction of the tax burden upon the citizens for operation of these prison institutions.

The Rev. Mr. Talley was also the author of several other important measures of social legislation, notably among them being his character education bill for the public system. At the close of his career as a legislator he was appointed by Gov. Clifford M. Townsend as a member of the Indiana Welfare Board.

CRIME- 1939

IOWA

NEGRO STABS PRIEST IN DAVENPORT HOME, ROBS HIM OF MONEY

Davenport, Ia., Dec. 27 [Special].—A Negro youth attacked with a knife the Rt. Rev. Msgr. George Giglinger pastor of St. Joseph's Catholic church while he was alone in his rectory last night and robbed him of $7. The 71 year old pastor was injured seriously. He suffered stab wounds on the top of the head and on the face.

Police learned that the same Negro visited priests in four other Catholic churches in Davenport recently and asked for money. He obtained money from two priests after he told a story of needing funds to purchase clothing so he could take a job which had been offered him in a hotel.

Msgr. Giglinger gave the youth $3 on Christmas day when he called at the rectory and told his story. The Negro returned Tuesday evening when the priest was alone and asked for additional cash. When the monsignor explained that he could not advance any more money, the Negro requested food for his elderly grandmother, who he said was ill at her home. Msgr. Giglinger agreed and went to the kitchen with the Negro behind him. In the kitchen the youth pulled a large bread knife from under his coat and stabbed the priest on top of the head. The pastor called for help and was warned that if he made another outcry he would be killed. The priest then gave up the money he had in his pocket.

$50,000 TRAIN EXTORTIONIST FOUND GUILTY

Threatened To Wreck All Shipping Unless Sum Was Paid To Him

LAWRENCE, Kans., Dec. 15—Eugene Washington, 31, was found guilty by Judge R. J. Hopkins of the federal district court in Kansas City, Tuesday, on charges of sending an extortion letter through the United States mail.

Homer Davis, assistant U. S. district attorney, cited Washington as the sender of a letter demanding $50,000 of J. C. Pollock of Chicago, manager of the department of tours for the Union Pacific and the Chicago Northwestern railroads. The sender threatened destruction of the Union Pacific trains unless the money was paid.

According to charges, the money was to be dropped on signal from the cab of a locomotive, between 7 and 9 o'clock the night of April 30, somewhere between Kansas City and Topeka. Washington was apprehended by federal agents and railroad detectives at Lawrence.

Government representatives said that Washington walked around the engine, but gave no signal that the money was to be dropped. In denying the charges, the counsel for Washington maintained that Washington's motive was to "blind" the train instead of blowing it up.

COLORED EMPLOYES CALLED IN PROBE OF LOUISIANA SCANDALS

Nearly 300 Workers Testify Before Grand Jury Which Has Negro Member

Globe

8-4-39

BATON ROUGE, La., July 27 (By Robert McKinney for ANP)—This town, capital of Louisiana, where Huey P. Long reigned as kingfish and was assasinated by a belligerent follower, is agog with all kinds of state and federal probes. Everywhere you turn you see probers digging deep into the affairs of Dr. James Monroe Smith, ex-president of Louisiana State University, and his associates who are being charged with everything on the books in one of the most sensational school scandals ever known in the south.

Diversified opinions have it, and testimonies show, that millions of L.S.U. dollars, most of which came through WPA, have been squandered. The probers are taking no chances, they are threatening to question everybody who worked for L.S.U. or who is presently employed there, causing nearly 300 of its Negro employes to talk very cautiously.

The Baton Rouge grand jury thoroughly questioned Link Bryant, Negro L.S.U. building superintendent, and reported right hand man of George Caldwell, L.S.U. building superintendent, who has been indicted and charged with embezzlement for having taken a two per cent cut on all buildings constructed on the campus in the last two years, totaling more than a half million dollars. The majority of Negroes in Baton Rouge feel sorry for Mr. Caldwell, and refer to him as "a very kind man to Negroes." Mr. Bryant, a very high salaried man, came from under the grueling test of the grand jury without having incriminated himself. Roosevelt Ashberry, influential chauffeur of Dr. Charles Loric, state senator and now resigned president of the Louisiana State Medical society, was also questioned on Friday evening.

And strangely enough, the keenest mind on the grand jury belongs to a Negro, Carl T. Weathers, pastor of a Methodist church, mail carrier and member of the Colored Civic Improvement association.

While Dr. Smith and Mr. Caldwell were somewhat friendly with Dr. J. S. Clark, who recently retired as president of Southern university, it is doubtful that Southern will be brought into the scandal. However the contractors (Caldwell Brothers and Hart) who built the L.S.U. buildings also constructed the newest buildings on the Southern university campus, which cause some to think that Dr. Clark may be questioned. Influential persons who are helping to fight the state administration say, "don't be surprised at what happens; anybody may be questioned."

Although the Dr. Smith farce is attaining national prominence, the "big guns" who started the "mess" are moving down to New Orleans to expose the "shots" who are behind the gambling there and where, if anything serious takes place, more than 650 Negroes connected with the rackets, will lose good paying jobs.

Montgomery, Ala. Journal
August 3, 1939

White and Colored Gamblers

There are hundreds of small dice games for negroes in white saloons all over New Orleans, and in some of these places the negroes and lower type whites shoot craps together. But the most prominent colored dice establishment is The Fair, located on old Magazine street and operated by Earl Mertzweiller, another close friend of Mayor Maestri.

Biggest negro gambler in New Orleans, and also reported to be on good terms with Mayor Maestri, is the famous "Mr. Beansie," real name Edgar Fauria, who is so important a figure in the gambling world that he is always accompanied by a white bodyguard, Frank Licalzi, alias "Fungi," whose picture is in the police rogues gallery. These two once got into a dispute with a white policeman named Molinary, and when the latter tried to bring charges against them, the District Attorney's office suggested that it was wiser, for the policeman's sake, to drop the case.

Local Doctor Questioned In Famous Case

Civic, Political Privileges Are Accorded Colored

By ROBERT McKINNEY

NEW ORLEANS — (ANP) — That weird episode, the L. S. U. scandal featuring Dr. James Monroe Smith, ex-president of the school, who has 41 counts against him, and his cohort of political advisers, has been allured to New Orleans from Baton Rouge by unique manipulations that netted millions of dollars for some of the highest political office holders in the state.

Most of them have been indicted but federal investigators say it's only beginning, singling out Louisiana as one of the most politically corrupted states in the country.

The investigators have drawn a Negro porter of the Newman Harris Investment company into their net and questioned him thoroughly. His name could not be ascertained for some strange reason. And it is no secret that a very prominent Negro doctor, Taylor Segue, graduate of Howard university, is likely to be questioned as a member of the Abe Shusan jury which is said to have been tampered with two years ago.

Shusan, millionaire boss politician, was charged with evading income taxes, but was found not guilty by the jury. Dr. Segue is out of town on his vacation, but the odds are five to one he will be brought back inside of a week.

BREAK FOR VOTERS

Although the whole situation is full of corruption and disgrace, it has its good points, the most astonishing of which is the registration of Negro voters without any fanfare. The Orleans Levee board temporarily granted Negroes beautiful Seabrook for swimming a few weeks ago to save its face. And many schools principals say that the public school system is sending material to their Negro schools that have never been seen or heard of before.

"I can't understand it," said one principal; "all of our orders are being filled promptly this year for the first time in 15 years, and we are getting things we didn't even ask for."

After the dark, dirty clouds are moved, maybe a new moon will shine for Negroes in Louisiana.

AFTER LYNCH BILL

Of special interest to Negroes is the fight of Sen. Allen J. Ellender, fillibusterer extraordinairs and enemy of the anti-lynch bill, and the local press. Ellender is with the state machine. The press is after his scalp and is very likely to get it in the next election, because of his assertion that "the press of the nation is losing the confidence of the public by its underhand tactics. I would not be a bit surprised in a few years if congress took measures to curb it."

The New Orleans States, a power in Louisiana political affairs and first to expose its graft and corruption, editorially lambasted Ellender recently "bold, bad man from Louisiana," stating, "this boy does not know his own strength. He's going to throttle all the newspapers, and then kill off the constitution."

Ten Percent

SOME business, in the ordinary and specialized channels of a commercial world, features a ten per cent exaction as a means of financing.

In the majority of Negro communities, a favorite form of business is the PAWN SHOP. Driven to desperation during critical times, and in dire need of ready money, Negroes resort to "borrowing" on articles of value, beginning with shoes and perhaps ending with household furniture. At the rate of ten per cent per month, such interest represents one hundred and twenty per cent a year! DIRECT TAXATION of that sort would bring open rebellion. Yet, thousands upon thousands of Negroes, calmly and considerately, arrange their Monday morning session with "Uncle Joe" or "Uncle Jim."

It would be wonderful to see some Negro business men invest capital and loan money at a reasonable rate. They could earn a fortune at 12 per cent a year, let alone ten per cent a month! Figuring the business at 12 per cent a year, an investment of $100,000 loaned out at 100 per cent would net a group of men $12,000. A sum of that magnitude would pay nice salaries to any office force. Presume that the business should grow, and over a period of years, the thousands who now borrow from Loan Brokers would borrow from this firm. In a short period, they would have built up a million dollar establishment. A million dollars loaned out in any fraction at 12 per cent a year, would bring enough revenue to the business to allow it to expand into channels benefitting the working man from many angles. When human beings deem it necessary to borrow, there should be a reasonable amount of percentage charged them, but the exorbitant rates charged by firms in the business today will soon enslave families for generations to come. It will not only rob them of their household necessities, but surely take homes, plots of ground, and other property acquired through saving, away from them.

NEGRO BUSINESSMEN should see a point of this kind. A man in need of money isn't particular where he may borrow it, as long as he has some collateral. The object in view is MONEY.

We have complained for years about the types of business Negroes have gone into. All around us we see members of other minority groups going into some form of business that will exact a magnanimous tribute from NEGROES.

Reasoning the result of sacrificing to a degree necessitating suffering, let us hope that in the future, those who feel they must have ready cash, and are willing to pay the financial tribute, may be able to pay it to NEGROES who are in the business, rather than to a group who turn back less than 1 per cent of the intake into NEGRO channels.

STORY WAS 'TOO THIN' EVEN FOR LA. COPS

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 19 (ANP) — Frank Grisaffi, white, was found unconscious on Dumaine street last week beside papers and identification of Miller S. Baker, veteran immigration inspector, also white. Grisaffi was rushed to the hospital where he died several hours later from a fractured skull and concussion of the brain.

Police contacted Baker and were told that three Negroes had attacked him and Grisaffi as they were walking the street after having been drinking in a nearby liquor tavern. Police immediately began a search for three Negroes of the description Baker had given.

Further investigation into the case, police said, revealed a struggle between two men. They again sought Baker and brought him to the scene of the incident. He broke down and confessed that his first story was false and that he had had a fight with Grisaffi, who had attempted to rob him. He said he did not know that Grisaffi was seriously hurt.

The two men allegedly had been drinking together, but when the dark spot was reached, Grisaffi, reported to be the drunker of the two, attacked Baker. Baker in defense pushed Grisaffi, who fell to the pavement fracturing his skull. Baker ran away not knowing he had hurt the offender. He was charged with murder after his confession.

Jury Exclusion Blocks Hanging

WASHINGTON

Justice Hugo S. Black, former member of the Ku Klux Klan, wrote the U.S. Supreme Court opinion which set aside the murder conviction of Hugh Pierre of Lucy, La., on Monday.

Pierre contended that his conviction and sentence to hang were unconstitutional because colored people were excluded from the jury which indicted him.

Justice Black said that the Louisiana Supreme Court should have rejected the conviction and quashed the indictment.

Negro Selected For Grand Jury In Baton Rouge

BATON ROUGE—(ANP)— For the first time in 40 years a Negro was selected to serve on the grand jury of East Baton Rouge parish. His name is Carl T. Weathers, a mailman.

The first indictment returned by the new jury was one charging Ira Henderson, a Negro, with murder.

Simultaneously, in the district court arguments were heard on the plea for a new trial of Willie White, convicted March 3 for the slaying of a white man in a junk shop in Baton Rouge. White had escaped the law for some time but was pointed out to police on a recent visit to New Orleans. He was arrested near the Huey P. Long bridge as he was on a return trip to Texas. A reward of $100 is said to have been paid to the Negro that turned him up.

White's attorney, Fred S. LeBlanc, having read of the supreme court decision in the Hugh Pierre case holding that Pierre had to be retired because Negroes were excluded from jury service in the state, immediately filed for new trial. He argued that the indictment was illegal in the face of this recent supreme court decision.

2 Others Hear WPA Scandal

Weathers Serves Twice During Year

(By LEON LEWIS)

BATON ROUGE, La.—Apparently taking precaution against use of the Scottsboro decision to balk the half million dollar embezzlement charges facing Dr. James Monroe Smith, ex-president of Louisiana State university, Carl T. Weathers, local postal employe, was named to serve on the East Baton Rouge Parish grand jury which is probing the tangled financial affairs of the white institution.

Selection of Weathers marked the second time this year that he has served as a juror. On Monday, April 3, Weathers was the first Negro so recogized in East Baton Rouge parish in forty years.

His first service was made possible through a supreme court decision ordering a new trial for Hugh Pierre, convicted slayer of a white man, because it "was a policy of the state of Louisiana to exclude Negroes from jury service."

Charges against Dr Smith grew out of misappropriation of university funds and bonds, used to finance his stock and grain market plunges. The expose came in an executive political expose made by the Times-Picayune, New Orleans daily, that caused a shakeup in Louisiana politics.

Governor Richard Leche, claiming ill health, quit as chief executive of the state, Earl Long, brother of Huey Long and lieutenant governor, succeeded Leche, and a federal probe is being made into alleged misappropriation of state PWA funds.

TWO NEGROES ON FEDERAL JURY PROBING WPA SCANDAL

NEW ORLEANS—(A N P)—Sitting on the federal grand jury investigating misuse of Works Progress Administration labor and materials are two Negroes, James A. Holtry, treasurer of the Good Citizens Insurance company, and Preston King, proprietor of King Brothers' Grocery store. The jury opened its probe last Friday morning.

Conducting the hearing in the strictest secrecy, the jury sought to ferret out the truth of charges made by Drew Pearson and Robert Allen in their syndicated newspaper column, "Washington Merry Go Round," that WPA labor and materials were used in private construction by Governor Leche, Attorney General Ellison and other state politicians. The article was declared based on affidavits sworn out by alleged WPA workers.

Negro Juror Keenest Mind On Quiz Body Investigating Graft Charges In Louisiana

Former Head of Southern Univ. May be Questioned Regarding New Buildings on Campus

Question Negro Building Supt.

By ROBERT McKINNEY

BATON ROUGE, La.—(ANP)—This town, capital of Louisiana, where Huey P. Long reigned as kingfish and was assassinated by a belligerent follower, is agog with all kinds of state and federal probes. Everywhere you turn you see probers digging deep into the affairs of Dr. James Monroe Smith, ex-president of Louisiana State university, and his associates who are being charged with everything on the books in one of the most sensational school scandals ever known in the South.

Diversified opinions have it, and testimonies show, that millions of L. S. U. dollars, most of which came through WPA, have been squandered. The probers are taking no chances, they are threatening to question everybody who worked for L. S. U. or who is presently employed there, causing nearly 300 of its Negro employees to talk very cautiously.

The Baton Rouge grand jury thoroughly questioned Link Bryant, Negro L. S. U. building superintendent, and reported right hand man of George Caldwell, L. S. U. building superintendent who has been indicted and charged

with embezzlement for having taken a two per cent cut on all buildings constructed on the campus in the last two years, totaling more than a half million dollars. The majority of Negroes in Baton Rouge feel sorry for Mr. Caldwell, and refer to him as "a very kind man to Negroes." Mr. Bryant, a very high salaried man, came from under the gruelling test of the grand jury without having incriminated himself. Roosevelt Ashberry, influential chauffeur of Dr. Charles Loris, state senator and now resigned president of the Louisiana State Medical society, was also questioned on Friday evening.

And strangely enough, the keenest mind on the grand jury belongs to a Negro, Cary T. Weathers, pastor of a Methodist church, mail carrier and member of the Colored Civic Improvement association.

While Dr. Smith and Mr. Caldwell were somewhat friendly with Dr. J. S. Clark, who recently retired as president of Southern university, it is doubtful that Southern will be brought into the scandal. However, the contractors (Caldwell Brothers and Hart) who built the L. S. U. buildings also constructed the newest buildings on the Southern university campus, which cause some to think that Dr. Clark may be questioned. Influential persons who are helping to fight the state administration say, "Don't be surprised at what happens; anybody may be questioned."

Although the Dr. Smith farce is attaining national prominence, the "big guns" who started the "mess" are moving down to New Orleans to expose the "shots" who are behind the gambling there, and where, if anything serious takes place, more than 650 Negroes connected with the rackets will lose good-paying jobs.

QUESTION NEGROES IN SENSATIONAL LOUISIANA SCANDAL

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La. Scandal May Hit Negro

Several Are Called Into Question By GRAND JURY PROBERS

All So Far Have Emerged Unscathed

Baton Rouge, La., July 24 (By Robert McKinney for ANP)—This town, capitol of Louisiana, where Huey P. Long reigned as kinglish and was assassinated by a belligerent follower, is agog with all kinds of state and federal probes. Everywhere you turn you see probers digging deep into the affairs of Dr. James Monroe Smith, ex-president of Louisiana State University, and his associates who are being charged with everythings on the books in one of the most sensational school scandals ever known in the South.

Diversified opinions have it, and testimonies show, that millions of LSU dollars, most of which came through WPA, have been squandering. The probers are taking no chances, they are threatening to question everybody who worked for LSU, or who is presently employed there, causing nearly 300 of its Negro employes to talk very cautiously.

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Race Employes Of LSU May Be Questioned

More Than 300 Kept Jittery By Investigations

BATON ROGUE, La. — (ANP) —This town, capitol of Louisiana, where Huey P. Long reigned as kingfish and was assassinated by a belligerent follower, is agog with all kinds of state and federal probes. Everywhere you turn you see probers digging deep into the affairs of Dr. James Monroe Smith, ex-president of Louisiana State university, and his associates who are being charged with everything on the books in one of the most sensational school scandals ever known in the South.

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Martin's Goons Attack Pastor at Detroit Rally

Huge Turnout for Spivak Expose of Coughlin

(Special to the Daily Worker)

DETROIT, Dec. 20.—Rev. Owen A. Knox, Methodist Pastor, was last night beaten had three teeth knocked out and glasses broken, as he passed through a lineup of Homer Martin's mob outside the hall which he was entering to address a mass meeting under the auspices of the Civil Rights Federation of Detroit.

The attackers were the same gang under the leadership of Pat McCartney, one of the officers of Martin's auto union chartered by the A. F. of L., that several weeks ago attacked and injured more than 50 persons who attended the mass meeting addressed by William Z. Foster, National Chairman of the Communist Party.

The mass meeting last night, attended by 2,000 persons was addressed by George Addes, secretary-treasurer of the United Automobile Workers of the CIO: Rev. J. H. Bollens, chairman of the Federation; John L. Spivak, author of the series of New Masses exposures of Father Charles E. Coughlin's anti-labor activities and Rev. Knox who is treasurer of the Federation.

COPS ABSENT

The vigilante gangsters who "picketed" outside the hall wore American flags and carried anti-Communist placards. There were practically no police at the scene when the vigilantes besieged the meeting but following the beating 150 arrived at the scene.

A bloody riot such as was precipitated by the hooligans outside the Foster meeting at Finnish Hall was averted only because hundreds of unionists inside were ready to meet them.

Addes delivered a slashing attack on the "three angels," as he called Father Coughlin, Rev. Gerald L. K. Smith and Rev. Frank Norris the well-known General Motors tool.

"I am proud to be here tonight," said Addes, "I am proud to be here as speaker in defense of civil liberties in Detroit and if anybody can claim to have brought democracy and American institutions to this city it is the organized workers.

"We know how we won it. We won it through the union and through the union we shall fight for it. But we hope that the enemies of democracy will take heed and not provoke us again to battle for American institutions and the American way of life.

"We are determined not to let our enemies attack the fortress of democracy, which is the CIO, without giving them reason to be sorry that they ever started anything."

TRACES UAW STRUGGLES

Addes traced the struggle of the auto workers to organize and how they finally broke through this city's open shopism. He warned that the fascist forces who now gather in secret here to plan the overthrow of democracy center their attack on the unions first. That is why the "three little angels" center their fire on the unions, he said.

Spivak was given a rousing reception. His exposures in the New Masses have been widely read here. Spivak took the audience through the maze of investigation that he has carried through on Coughlin's doings and the proof of his anti-labor and outright fascist activities that he has discovered.

Wide aplause frequently broke into his speech. As late as 11 P. M many automobiles filled with workers off the night shift were still coming to the hall for a glimpse at "the guy who gave the shiner to the bird at the Shrine."

Many of these auto loads of workers came on hearing that McCartney's goons were at the hall. But McCartney's men cleared away, convinced that they could not repeat their cowardly attacks this time.

Meanwhile, as an aftermath of the meeting, there developed the demand that the fascist Rev. Gerald L. K. Smith be investigated. Such demand was issued today by Addes and by Spivak. Smith is seen as the guiding hand of the mob violence that is developing in this city.

White Driver Wrecks Women's Car; One Dead

Another White Man Robs Unconscious Victims and Gets Away—It All Happened in Mississippi.

DETROIT, July 27—(ANP)—Perhaps the two meanest men alive are now somewhere in the vicinity of Oakland, Miss. One, a hit and run driver, deliberately sideswiped a car containing five women on a highway near Oakland, resulting in the death of one and serious injuries to two others. The other was the man who robbed the unconscious women as one lay dying as a result of the collision.

Mrs. Lily Staton, of this city, who lies in her home here swathed in bandages from head to foot, and is the mother of Mrs. Edna Powell, who was killed in the accident, says Mrs. Powell was driving along a four-lane highway near Oakland, Miss., on their way to Grenada, when suddenly a car passing them on the left, swerved into the side of their car which was completely wrecked after having been knocked off the highway, injuring the women, all of whom were knocked unconscious.

When she revived, Mrs. Staton said, a white man was bending over her and had taken a watch and $50 from her purse, and held the watch of her dying daughter in his hand. When she pleaded with the man not to rob them, he helped to pull them from the wreckage and during the confusion slipped away with the pilfered goods.

A gas station attendant near by who saw the acident admitted it was deliberate, according to Mrs. Staton, failed to get the license number of the hit-and-run driver, but put the State police on the trail of the robber. The highwayman is reported by highway police to have been arrested and is out on bond pending trial whenever Mrs. Staton is able to make the trip back to Oakland.

The watches and money were shown to Mrs. Staton by police while she was in the hospital in Grenada, where the injured women were treated and from which the body of Mrs. Powell was shipped to Detroit for burial.

The police, however, would not surrender the stolen property to Mrs. Staton, and she was forced to go before the grand jury in Oakland, being carried on stretchers, to give her statement, and must return to Oakland in order to recover her stolen property. As far as is known, no effort is being made to apprehend the hit-and-run driver.

McComb, Miss. Enterprise
September 26, 1939

FINED $125.00

A fine of $125.00 was meted out to a Berglundtown negro in city police court yesterday for having a case of homebrew in his possession.

Turn this idea over in your mind. Toy with it for a while. A Berglundtown negro was fined $125.00 for possessing a case of homebrew.

This is a democracy. All hail the glorious state where justice is meted out to all men alike....where none are given privileges that others are denied ....where the rule of conduct is applied to all men alike, regardless of color, race, class, creed or sex.

We have reason to be proud of living in a democracy. Think what the good people of Italy and Germany miss. Recall for a moment how the Russians disregard the liberties of the individual.

It is cases such as this that disgust men and women with the so-called prohibition law. It is easier to be disgusted with the prohibition law than with government for if the prohibition law is upheld in the face of such instances as this, then think what a sad commentary this affords for democratic government.

Yes, a Berglundtown negro was fined $125.00 for possessing a case of home brew....but what about the other hundreds of McComb people who enjoy the privileges of a democracy....The reader must draw his or her own conclusion from this discussion. What deduction is formed in your fertile brain?

Lee Baker May Be H
Of Mound City, But T
Says He Doesn't Wa

ST. LOUIS, Mar. 9—(Special)—They're still sing[illegible] praises of Lee Baker for his role in the Louis Londe Bombing case and Baker has a lifetime job at the Homer Phillips hospital, more honors coming to him, and some $3,000 in cash.

All of this doesn't appeal to another Baker, an ex-convict, known variously as William, William Calvin and Sonny Baker, who was arrested Friday, March 3, near his home at 2717 Walnut street, after he disappeared from sight following the reported theft of $1,800 from George Brown, a guest at the Lasalle hotel, in downtown St. Louis on February 2. The money was said to have been taken from an iron box in Brown's trunk.

Baker, who was employed at the hotel as a bellboy until the morning of the crime, left the city suddenly. He explained his quick exodus was the result of a conversation with two white men in the hotel after the money was found to be missing. Baker didn't talk much. He answered "Yes" when the men warned him to keep his mouth shut when they asked him if he knew what happened to Lee Baker, star witness in the Londe case and replied "No" when asked if he wanted the same thing to happen to him.

Baker, who served 37 months of a five-year sentence for killing a man in 1924, denies taking the money. He was arrested by Detective Sergeant Clarence Lee and Detectives Charles Johnson and Clyde Gardner.

GAMBLING HOUSE GOES WHEN NEGRO GROUP PROTESTS

The Call

Piccolo 78 Club Establishment Closes Doors After 10 Men Hold Conference with City Manager H. F. McElroy

Kansas City, Mo 3-17-39

As a result of a conference Tuesday morning with City Manager H. F. McElroy, a committee of 10 Kansas City Negroes was successful in bringing about the closing of a gambling house which has operated on Eighteenth street for the past 5 years.

The place closed was the Piccolo or 78 club, located at 1517 East Eighteenth street.

In making the protest to the city manager, members of the committee charged the enterprise with being one of the most demoralizing influences to the Negro population of Kansas City and added that they considered it a public nuisance because of the damage it was doing to legitimate businesses located in the vicinity of the gambling house.

The committee also stated minors were known to have frequented the place as they passed on their way home from the two schools located in the same neighborhood as the gambling house.

They further charged that Negroes have used their earnings to "play the numbers" to the extent that their homes have been denied the necessities of life. One instance cited was information that a woman had purchased merchandise on credit and then sold it to obtain money with which to try and strike a "lucky play."

During the half-hour conference in the city manager's office various other objections were voiced in regard to the objectionableness of the enterprise, which the committee said, had operated "wide open" running "policy" each half hour as an inducement to their patrons.

The decision to take the matter to the city manager grew out of a meeting held Monday night by the committee after the Piccolo or 78 club, as it was known had re-opened Monday after being closed during the session of the Jackson County Grand Jury which adjourned last Saturday.

The meeting was called by Rev D. A. Holmes, pastor of the Pasec Baptist church and was attended by T. B. Watkins, Attorney C. H Calloway, Attorney James H. Herbert, Elmore Williams, Thomas A Webster, Forrest S. Smith, Reuben Street, Rev. S. S. Myers and George B. Brady.

These same men comprised the committee which made the protest to McElroy Tuesday morning

HIGH CRIME RATE AMONG NEGROES

Just now there seems to be quite a crime wave among members of our race in this community.

If we had the space we could print what might be called sentence testimonies of thousands of prisoners and former prisoners supporting the statement that "crime does not pay." Gambling pays the gamekeeper and players are the fools. Think this over and notice how the gamekeepers thrive while the players go without bread. Dozens of young men whom you know right here in St. Louis who were formerly rounders at the game and thought themselves expert at winning, found that gambling is a "skin game," and many of them, we are pleased to say, have quit the gambling houses and gone to work. A man, who followed the game for thirty years, declared, "Gamblers will steal." Let us all, and this includes mother, father, sister, brother and neighbor, make a concerted effort to lessen gambling among the youth, for by "sowing" gamblers you will "reap" "jailbirds". Our jails and penitentiaries are already overcrowded with the youth, the flower of our race.

The last available record shows that 27% of the persons received by state prisons and reformatories in 1936 were Negroes, although they are only 9.6% of the total population of the United States. If we were to take time to look up the police court records to see the number of Negroes arrested as compared with the number of whites arrested in St. Louis it would make you laugh if it were not such a tragedy.

And while it is true that we all know that the police are more aggressive in arresting colored than they are in arresting white people, yet we protest that there is much that we, ourselves, can do to lessen crime among our youth. Most of us get busy when little Johnnie is arrested. In fact, we are ready to extol his virtues then, but once at home we do little or nothing to see what he is doing that is bringing him ever nearer to the jail house door.

We do not picture the situation as a hopeless one. Let us see whether we have enough of them. Let us think about those already in existence and see whether they measure up to their responsibilities. Surely things cannot continue as they are now. If something isn't done soon we are going to call upon every colored minister in the city of St. Louis to preach a sermon on the cost of crime.

No Negro Police Officers Rank Higher Than Class A Patrolman

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—(Special)—With the demotion of Sergeant Leon Jordan to a class A patrolman, there are now no Negroes on the police force with a rank higher than patrolman.

For years, two Negro detectives were on the force, but when the ace team of Warren and Robinson was broken up, no Negroes were placed on the detective force to fill their vacancies. John Burns, a patrolman, was given the rank of detective but did not receive detectives pay. He was demoted to class A patrolman when Chief Reed took office. Negro plainclothesmen ride in two squad cars, but they have the rank and pay of patrolmen.

Jordan, who was made a regular sergeant with full sergeant's pay on July 1, was demoted to class A patrolman Saturday, July 29, by Chief L. B. Reed, new chief of police under state rule.

With his demotion, Jordan's work in the Crime Prevention Bureau, came to an end as Jordan was assigned to other work. The Crime Prevention Bureau was organized during the emergency administration of Director of Police Boyle. Its purpose was to foster activities

At Parole Confab

DR. F. D. PATTERSON, president of Tuskegee, and EMMETT J. SCOTT, former secretary of Howard university, who attended the National Parole conference which met in Washington, D. C., Apr. 17 and 18. The conference was called at the instigation of Attorney General Frank W. Murphy, and has as its purpose the discussion of uniform parole laws throughout the country.

Tuskegee President And Emmett J. Scott Attend National Parole Conference

Eighteen Per Cent of Federal Prisoners Negroes; Uniform Parole Laws Needed

Meeting Called By U. S. Atty-General

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)—Holding sessions in this city on April 17-18, the National Parole conference furnished much of interest to the prominent personages attending the meetings. Included in the group were Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee, and Emmett J. Scott, former secretary of Howard university, T. Arnold Hill of the National Urban League, unable to attend sessions, sent a wire of regret.

Called at the instigation of Attorney General Frank W. Murphy, the conference had as its purpose the discussion of uniform parole laws throughout the country.

According to information presented at the conference, only eight states have first class parole systems. Nine have no parole system whatsoever. They do not recognize the problem as existing.

Considering that there are large numbers of Negroes in prisons throughout the country, it is interesting to note that in many states, counties have their own parole systems, in others each penal institution has the authority to work out its own ideas of parole.

It is reported that one state spent only $25 last year on its parole system, although it has several hundred persons out on parole. That money, it is further stated, was spent on postage.

In another state approximately 2,000 persons were out on parole last year, yet that state had only one parole office. Another state had 4,000 prisoners on parole with only a single parole clerk employed to keep track of them.

Another state which has a single parole officer, contacts its paroles directing them to meet him at the courthouse at a certain time on a certain day. They come and sign blanks, thus proving that they are alive and live near enough to the county seat to get there for their appointments with the parole officer. In some states, the prisoner released on parole is simply told to go home and report ever so often to the sheriff. If he doesn't, something may or may not be done about it.

Supervision in these cases is almost impossible, the conference declared, and under such systems, parole is a dangerous, misleading gesture.

One of the chief reasons for the failure of parole systems to accomplish the good they are supposed to accomplish is the change in administrations which frequently sweep the entire setup out and bring in a new personnel. Political control of the parole system is one of the worst features of the entire system, speakers declared.

Under some systems, it costs from $350 to $600 yearly to keep a person in a penal institution. Under a Class A parole system, it would cost only a fraction of that amount to supervise a man on parole. In New York state, which has one of the best systems, some 7,826 men are out on parole and the cost is about $75 per man, as against $560 per man for keeping them in an institution.

Interesting figures on the federal penitentiaries for the fiscal year ending July 1, 1938, show that of a total prison population of 11,604 men and women, 2,117, or about 18 per cent are Negroes. During the same period, there were in state and city and county jails on federal charges 34,759 males and 2,667 female prisoners. Of this number, 6,198 male and 696 female prisoners were Negroes. This group was unsentenced and awaiting both trial and sentences. However, serving terms in the same types of jails were 20,846 males and 1,116 female prisoners, of which 2,262 male and 218 females were Negroes.

President Roosevelt, Attorney General Frank Murphy, Governor Herbert Lehman of New York and many other notables spoke during the sessions of the conference.

Each speaker stressed the importance of uniformity in the parole laws, first in order to decrease the cost of maintaining penal institutions; to make room in civil life for discharged prisoners who during their periods of incarceration had acquired some trade or knowledge of trades and the attitudes of civilians to discharged prisoners.

Following an interview with one of the officials of the conference, when he was asked what percentage of Negroes were released from federal penitentiaries and prisons on paroles, it was said that no record was kept of this feature—that the department did not consider color in the matter of paroles and had no figures to indicate just how many Negroes had been paroled.

Bruce Freed From Prison

NEWARK, N. J., Feb. 23—Roscoe C. Bruce, Jr., left Essex County Penitentiary a free man Friday and his action let fall the curtain on the last act of the famous Richard B. Harrison [illegible] hold-up case of April, 1937.

He told fellow prisoners farewell, including Daniel Winge, his successor who has a year more to serve for embezzlement from the same apartment office of which Bruce was once boss.

Race Man Head Of Million Dollar Policy Syndicate

Austin Clark 'Termed' Brains of Group by Federal Authorities—Four Other Race Men, Eight Whites Also Accused.

TRENTON, N. J., Mar. 23—(ANP)—Austin Clark, alias Dick Austin, alleged head of the huge $1,000,000 year policy syndicate in Atlantic City, was indicted Tuesday by the federal grand jury along with four other Negroes and eight whites for evasion of income taxes.

Federal officials said the system used was similar to that uncovered in the recent trial of Jimmy Hines, Tammany leader of New York. According to William F. Smith, assistant U. S. attorney, the gang through a headquarters and eight sub-stations controlled numbers writers in 923 places of which 800 were small stores in and around Atlantic City.

The indictment charged not only failure to file income tax returns for 1935, 1936 and 1937, but also the making of false statements.

Clark, described by government investigators as "one of the biggest numbers writers in the East," is one of the few Negroes to head a gambling syndicate with whites in subservient positions. Those indicted with him were Leroy B. Williams, Nerndon Daniels, Harold Scheper and Isaac Washington. The eight whites were Benjamin Rubenstein, John F. Malia, Benjamin Ravinsky, Anthony L. Macrie, Joseph Friedman, Martin Michael, James F. Towhey and William Wolsson.

The ring collected $786,293 in 1935, $1,000,929 in 1936, and $1,144,735 in 1937, according to Smith. Taxes due for the three years total $79,735 to which is to be added $42,346 in penalties.

Treasury department investigators were ordered to attack the gang through income tax laws about eight months ago. Since then a squad headed by Hugh McQuillian, chief of the intelligence unit in New York City, and Special Agent William E. Frank have been busy combing haunts of the numbers men in Atlantic City.

Smith said the probe showed the "banks" maintained by the syndicate paid out about 35 per cent of the gross income to winners, most of whom placed small bets on their favorite numbers. To catch the night trade, one bank was operated on a 24-hour basis, with two shifts of bankers. For the day, payoffs were on horse race numbers and at night a policy wheel was used in which numbered balls were withdrawn to determine the winners.

Lay Plans For Income Tax Fight

Daily Record 12-12-39

Dick Austin's Income Tax Appeal, Dec. 18

By FRANK W. CANTY, JR.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.—(ANP)—Arguments on the appeal of Austin Clark, alias Dick Austin, numbers baron, for a sentence of three years in prison for income tax evasion will get underway Monday, December 18, in U. S. circuit court of appeals at Philadelphia.

John E. Toolan, counsel for Clark, in an 84 age brief filed with the court will attempt to set a legal precedent by contending that the testimony of 60 number writers was only "guess work," when they estimated the number of "hits" on Clarks number bank in 1935-36 and '37.

However, the government claims that since Clark had neither bank accounts nor records, the only way they could estimate the amount of his income was to take the "write" on his numbers and deduct expenses. In doing this they charge Clark with dodging income tax for three years in the amount of $31,408, to which was added penalties of $16,744.

60 WITNESSES

During the trial in June of this year over 60 witnesses, mostly writers of Clark's book, testified to their daily "take." In one incident Mrs. Mary Blair who said she was in employe of Clark, testified that she drew a salary of $20 per week for a few hours a day work to total number slips for the bank. She said the amount collected would run from $250 to $300 per day during winter months and as much as $400 daily in the summer. On the other hand. Walter Greenidge, uncle of Clark, said he was manager of the bank at a salary of $35 per week and that at many times he saw the bank pay out much larger sums than taken in.

Testifying in behalf of the government at the trial was William E. Frank, special agent of the intelligence unit of the treasury department, who said that Clark took in as high as $800 per day in the numbers game in Washington. Besides this, he stated he took in an additional $115 per day in Ocean City, not mentioning the $250 to $400 daily take. Frank also stated that the government started an investigation in 1937 on Clark, when it was noticed that he did not file returns in 1935 and 1936. The agent revealed that Clark admitted purchasing a lot in Bungalow park for $1,000, and buying an automobile for $1,000 for his daughter in 1936. He also carried an annuity policy for $700. His daughter was in a university and he paid a $250 tuition and gave her $20 weekly spending allowance. The agent also revealed that Clark admitted buying property for $10,000. He also purchased a Cadillac for $2,500 cash and $500 trade in on his old car. It was also brought out by the agent that

Rich Family Faces Court, Union, On Maid's Charges

Domestic Workers Aid Fight of Member Who Was Beaten

By Eugene Gordon

If the rich and powerful Altshuls—the Louis Altshuls, of the swankiest street of swankiest Mt. Vernon, N. Y.—knew who little Beesie Brown's backers will be when they meet her in court tomorrow they probably would be disagreeably surprised. They probably would think that it's high enough to have to answer an International Labor Defense lawyer's questions, but to see their names going down on the blacklist of the Domestic Worker Union is simply awful.

Oh, yes, the Domestic Workers Union will be represented when the Altshuls show up on the state's reluctant charge that they slugged and kicked Bessie Brown, their little Negro housemaid, because, as she said, she refused to be fired without her full pay.

What will probably excite the wealthy couple more than anything else is that the Domestic Workers Union executive secretary is undeniably a Negro. And a most competent person!

A fact like this can't be very palatable to people whose power in the town caused a clerk to tremble in terror when he was called on to draw up a complaint against them. And by a Negro, too!

UNION STANDS BY HER

If you think the Brown case is exceptional you are mistaken. The reason why we don't hear about more of them is that the girls or women don't belong to a union.

They may cry out but nobody hears them. Mrs. Brown cried out not only to the complaint clerk of the Mt. Vernon court—to be rebuffed by him as "drunk" and a "liar"—but to the International Labor Defense, the newspapers, and the Domestic Workers Union.

The fact that only two newspapers in New York heeded her cry—the Amsterdam News (the Negro weekly) and the Daily Worker—was not her fault.

Having been trained in the union to take care of herself, Bessie Brown proceeded to do so. Supported by the press, she forced the complaint clerk to summon the Altshuls into court. The ILD promised its help. Her union, of course, would certainly stand by her.

Whether she wins her proposed suit against her alleged assailants, she wins as a member of the Domestic Workers Union. Any of the dozen or more women one may find sitting around headquarters daily will tell you that. Membership in the union is in itself a victory, they say.

BESSIE BROWN

Negro Maid Says Boss Drew Gun on Her

Alleges He Attempted to Force Her to Sign a Wage Release

10-11-39

Declaring that she was given the runaround when first she complained to New Rochelle police and later to the court clerk that her former employer whom she alleged drew a gun on her because she refused to sign for wages she had not received, Miss Ann Brown, of 68 W. 116th St., yesterday sought the International Labor Defense for aid.

The accused employer is M. L. Bloom, of 90 Aviemore Drive, New Rochelle, N. Y. The complainant, Miss Ann Brown, is a Negro cook and houseworker.

The International Labor Defense has advised Miss Brown to procure a warrant for the arrest of the man she declares threatened her with a gun. Once she has done that, the ILD has assured her, that organization will be glad to fight her case for her.

CRAZED MAN PUTS SUBWAY IN UPROAR

He Wounds Broker With Axe Blow in Car of Speeding I. R. T. 7th Ave. Train

PASSENGERS SUBDUE HIM

11-12-39

Woman Faints, Others Scream as Marijuana Addict Is Overpowered Quickly

A marijuana-crazed Negro went berserk in a crowded express train of the Seventh Avenue I. R. T. subway as it left the Fourteenth Street station at 9:30 o'clock last night and, striking without warning from behind, felled another passenger, an investment broker, with an axe-blow on the head.

The sudden attack, coming while the train was speeding north, caused terror among the sixty men and women in the subway car. One woman fainted and others screamed as men near the victim, Emery L. Bryan, 47 years old, of Glenwood Road, Roslyn, L. I., threw themselves upon the six-foot assailant and overpowered him.

Mr. Bryan was on his way to the Long Island Railroad terminal at Pennsylvania Station with a friend, Taylor Woods, also an investment broker, of 60 Webster Avenue, Port Washington, L. I. He and Mr. Woods were among the standees in the car and were talking when a man who later said he was Leon Jasper, 44 years old, a Negro, of 168 Lenox Avenue, stole up behind them.

Jasper, wild-eyed and unkempt, drew an axe with a foot-long handle from beneath his long black overcoat and swung on Mr. Bryan with a sharp edge. The axe-edge inflicted a deep cut and caused concussion of the brain and possibly a skull fracture. Mr. Bryan dropped to the floor, his friend springing to his side.

So quickly did the attack come that few persons in the car took notice until the blow had fallen. Then panic developed among the passengers. Jasper made no further move, standing in his tracks beside his victim. Then Edward Schreiber of 227 Cypress Avenue, the Bronx, a candidate for appointment to the Police Department, who was seated near by, and other men in the vicinity, jumped up and tackled the Negro. They took the axe from him without difficulty and held him.

By that time the train was near Twentieth Street and some one pulled the emergency cord, sounding the emergency whistle. It screamed throughout the rest of the trip to Thirty-fourth Street and agents at local stations en route called the police. Members of Police Emergency Squad 3 met the train there and Patrolman James Mullins of Traffic C took over custody of Jasper, locking him up in the West Thirtieth Street station on a charge of felonious assault.

Mr. Bryan was taken to St. Vincent's Hospital, where it was said that although his condition was serious, he probably would survive. Mr. Woods said he and Mr. Bryan had not seen the Negro before and had not noticed him in the car. Jasper talked incoherently during his capture but later admitted being an addict of marijuana cigarettes and said he had smoked one in the late afternoon. His remarks indicated that he had the delusion that the two men had been following him all day and that they carried revolvers with which they meant to kill him, according to Detective Thomas Riggs.

Does Not Pay To Steal From 'God', Thief Learns

Daily Worker 11-30-39

NEW YORK — (ANP) — That it does not pay to steal from heavenly personages even though they may be self-styled 'gods', was shown here this week when police announced the capture of William Richards, 30-year-old five time convict who attempted to steal some clothing from one of Father Divine's Peace Missions late in 1938.

This is one of the few times that any one has attempted to harm any of Harlem's 'Heavens" and followers of Divine have stated that any time one steals from their "God" punishment will be meted out to the offender.

Richards after his capture on the Divine charge, escaped from the courtroom during his trial and was at large for more than a year. He had calmly walked from the courtroom after conferring with a legal aid attorney.

Richard was captured while attempting to rob a downtown theatre office. He is being held without bail now, having to face the courts on four charges.

Divine followers are jubilant at his capture.

Father Divine's Followers Nod Head at Capture

16-YEAR-OLD UNWED MOTHER DROWNS BABY IN JAMAICA BAY

Pittsburgh, Pa.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—For seven long months, 16-year-old Leonora Smith of Arverne, Queens, has struggled to support her little illegitimate daughter.

For five months she has tried in vain to get a job which would lighten the unwelcome burden which her unsanctioned action had placed on relatives with whom she lived at 229 Beach 7th street.

WOULDN'T LET HER FORGET MISSTEP

For many months longer, she has borne the disapproving stares of neighbors who never let her forget her first misstep from the path of rectitude.

But Thursday Leonora gave up the fight.

Staggering into the Rockaway Beach Police Station near her home that morning, she blurted out to the desk sergeant:

"I've just killed my child. I threw her into Jamaica Bay just a few minutes ago. I just couldn't stand it any longer."

And then she fainted.

Skeptical of her wild statement, at first, the officers rushed her to a rest room and revived her for questioning before going out to drag the bay for the body of little seven-months-old Leonora.

CONVINCES POLICE SHE'S TELLING TRUTH

But the young mother convinced them of the truth when she had been revived.

Reluctantly she told them of her illicit affair with an older man almost two years ago. Weeping, she revealed how her pregnancy had been concealed for several months before she had been forced to quit school in order to escape unwelcome stares. Her situation had not improved with the birth of the little girl sometime last May.

Finally she decided on her desperate course.

"I really planned to kill myself too," she sobbed out to the officers. "I don't know why I didn't. I didn't have any money. I couldn't get a job. I just couldn't see any other way out."

FATHER SOUGHT, MAY FACE MINOR CHARGES

The police checked her story and Leonora was arraigned in Homicide Court. The magistrate listened to her story and held her without bail for a further hearing on December 22.

In the meanwhile, the police were seeking the father of the illegitimate baby. He faces prosecution on a charge of contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

But Leonora, who has already suffered much, faces possible indictment on a charge of murder.

WITNESS TELLS HOW "RACKET" WAS MADE OF "NUMBERS" IN NEW YORK

CLERK AND FRIEND

New York, Feb. 16—A bizarre story of how he managed the numbers racket of Dutch Schultz and paid weekly tribute to James J. Hines, Tammany district leader, for protection of the gang was told this week by [illegible] Davis as the second Hines trial entered its third week.

Testifying for the state, Davis told of the fine points of the numbers racket and revealed how the gang operated to fleece thousands of dollars daily from Harlem Negroes. He confirmed the testimony of "Red" Williams and Joe (Spasm) Ison, Negro numbers bankers broken by Schultz, that the "take" of the mobsters in Harlem often topped $30,000 daily.

During 1932 and 1933, Davis testified, he gave money to Hines on "fifteen or twenty occasions." Once, he said, he furnished the Tammany leader with $2,000 only to learn that Weinberg, another Schultz gang member, would repay him only $1,000.

Davis was followed to the stand by (Big) Harry Schoenhaus who told how after the banks ceased publishing clearing house figures from which the "number" was obtained, the gang decided to use parimutuel figures to derive the number. He said that in order to prevent the right number from coming out bribery was resorted to.

The power Hines wielded over the city police force was revealed by another Tammany chieftain, John F. Curry. The jury learned through Curry's testimony that Hines usually ordered the removal of policemen from their district whenever they became too energetic against the mob.

The widow of Dutch Schultz said that her husband often spoke of Hines, and that one day she, Dutch and Hines lunched together in a fashionable mid-term restaurant.

Although Lloyd Paul Stryker, Hines' attorney, tried to shake the state's witnesses, they all remained firm, strengthening the state's contention that the Tammany leader was closely linked with the numbers racket.

WILLIAM (HOOT) GIBSON, Newark mail clerk, who a few months ago was indicted and sentenced, accused of taking money from a letter, vindicated recently and reinstated in New York post-office when authorities learned a white clerk had really committed the crime. Gibson is shown here talking to Miss Louise Reed of Newark during a New York dance last Thursday night.

Charlie McCarthy Kidnaped In Bold Raid On Hotel—No Kidding, Folks

NEW YORK —(AP)— Calling all cars! Calling all cars! Charlie McCarthy has been kidnaped!

The nation's most famous piece of wood is definitely missing, on the word of no less an authority than Edgar Bergen himself.

Authorities of the East Fifty-First Street police station—convinced it was a gag on someone's part—were considering a roundup of press agents.

CHARLIE McCARTHY

Detectives said oak-headed Charlie, star dummy of radio and screen, was last seen in the company of Frank D. Brown, a diminutive Negro bellhop at the Belmont Plaza Hotel.

Brown was found trussed up with towels at Thirty-Seventh Street and Eleventh Avenue last night. He told police two men registered at the hotel had told him to go to the seventeenth floor of the nearby Waldorf-Astoria and pick up a large brown case.

Ethel Mulhern, a desk clerk at the Waldorf, where the ventriloquist was staying, said a man who telephoned and said he was "Mr. Bergen," told her to go into his suite get the case containing McCarthy and give it to the bellhop.

When he left the hotel with the case, Brown told detectives two men pushed him into a taxicab, bound him and later threw him out and drove off with Charlie—who, in the absence of his spokesman, could make no cry for help.

Bergen, questioned by Detectives James McGowan and Frank Crimmins, said he had not discovered Charlie was gone until he returned to the hotel after attending a Broadway show with friends.

The detectives said the ventriloquist appeared upset and remarked the kidnaping "is the kind of publicity I don't want."

Bergen said Charlie was insured for $2,500 and that he might be forced to cancel his Sunday evening broadcast if he is not returned. Charlie has no brothers.

Police, uncertain just what sort of a dragnet to throw out to snare a missing dummy, said that so far no ransom demands had been received—not even from W. C. Fields

R. C. Bruce, Jr. Freed From Prison

3-3-39

NEW YORK CITY, Mar. 3—(ANP)—The big gates of Essex County penitentiary swung open yast Friday morning and Roscoe Conklin Bruce Jr., former Harvard student and leading Harlem resident, walked out a free man, told reporters "I have no comment."

Bruce was sentenced in November, 1937, after being convicted in Newark of staging a fake holdup with five others allegedly to cover up shortages in his accounts at the Harrison-Douglass apartments in Newark, which Bruce at that time managed. He had served 15 of his 18 months' sentence, three months having been allowed for good behavior.

SWITCH BLADES AND EQUALITY

The New York state legislature has unanimously passed a bill introduced by a Negro member to outlaw switch blade knives by classifying them as dangerous weapons.

There is no doubt that the switch blade knife is a dangerous weapon and that there has been far too much killing with this weapon, although such homicides are by no means confined to the Negro population.

But the same legislature refused to even consider the seven measures sponsored by the Temporary Commission on the Condition of Urban Colored Population which would have outlawed the wholesale state-wide discrimination against Negro workers practiced by public utilities, the civil service and other private and public organizations and institutions.

The New York Assemblymen are not worried about Negroes starving to death but they pretend to be much concerned about them knifing each other to death.

There is a close connection between crime and unemployment among colored citizens, since denial of economic opportunity is known to encourage crime and delinquency.

It is reported that the 835 colored inmates of Sing Sing prison constitute 31 per cent of its population although Negroes are only about one-thirtieth of New York's 13,000,000 inhabitants, and the proportion in the other state correctional institutions is approximately the same.

If there were no economic discrimination practiced against New York's Negroes, the proportion of colored inmates in penal institutions would be approximate to the Negro ratio in the population.

If the New York legislators were sincere in wanting to curb crime and delinquency among Negroes, they would have as quickly passed the seven bills outlawing economic discrimination as they did the switch blade knives.

Happily, the New York Senate has not yet taken up the seven anti-discrimination bills, so there is yet time for New York Negroes and their white friends to mobilize pressure in favor of this needed legislation.

CONVINCING: The New York Assembly had before it last week a bill to classify "switch-blade" knives as dangerous weapons along with machine guns, blackjacks and other arms. Members were doubtful, most of them being ignorant of the knife in question. Thereupon **Daniel Burrows,** Negro sponsor of the measure, marshaled his principal argument. He produced a "switch-blade" knife, snapping a catch in the four or five-inch handle to release a four-inch blade. He swished the knife through the air and asked for volunteers in order to demonstrate the weapon's effectiveness. There was none.

The Assembly watched, members making up their minds quickly. The 32-year-old Assemblyman from the Nineteenth District needed to argue no more. Majority Leader Ives rose. "I move," he said, "we close the debate and act on the bill, before Mr. Burrows drops that knife." The measure passed, 140 to 0.

'Switch-Blade' Knife 'Scares' the Assembly; Negro Member's Bill to Ban It Wins, 140 to 0

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

ALBANY, March 22.—Brandishing on the floor of the Assembly a "switch-blade" knife, an ominous-looking weapon with a blade four inches long and a handle slightly longer, Assemblyman Burrows, Negrom Democrat, virtually "intimidated" the House into passing a bill classifying the knife as a dangerous weapon along with guns, blackjacks, sawed-off shotgun and other arms of the underworld.

The Assembly had asked for an explanation of the bill put in by Mr. Burrows, with the intention on the part of some members of having a little fun over the notice taken of such a thing as a "switch-blade" knife. This was before any of the members knew what such a weapon might be.

From then on, every time Mr. Burrows pressed the small catch on the knife handle, and the blade swished through the air into a "ready for action" position, an involuntary shudder ran tthrough the members, and the press. Finally, with Mr. Burrows still arguing his point, Assemblyman Ives, majority leader, leaped to his feet, and said:

"I move we close the debate, and act on this bill, before Mr. Burrows drops that knife."

The bill was passed by a vote of 140 to nothing.

Mr. Burrows, in his opening remarks, explained that he would like to demonstrate the qualities of the weapon, and that he knew several subjects on which the knife had been used, but unfortunately "they have passed to the great beyond."

He then called for volunteers in the chamber and Assemblyman Steingut, minority leader, offered the use of Paul Lewin, his assistant. However, Mr. Lewin disappeared out the rear door.

Mr. Burrows said that he had obtained the knife simply by asking a lieutenant in a Harlem police precinct to get one for him. The lieutenant returned in about ten minutes, he said, indicating that the officer had taken it from some one who was not at that moment a prisoner.

Mr. Steingut asked Mr. Burrows why the "switch blade" knives were not covered by the blanket provisions of the law barring the possession of dangerous, concealed weapons.

"Some of the judges don't think these are dangerous," Mr. Burrows said in reply. "Id rather take a chance on a man with a gun than one of these any time, but the judges don't think so."

SUSPEND SENTENCE FOR EDWARD SIMON

Ex-Elk Official Pleads Guilty To Charge Of Robbing U. S. Mails

Justice moved swiftly in the case of Edward W. Simon, formerly Exalted Ruler of Manhattan Lodge of Elks, who was arrested February 14 by Postal Inspector Lamber for robbing the mails while working as a letter carrier in General Post Office, 33rd street and 8th avenue. At the time of his arrest he was said to have had in his possession decoy letters which postal authorities had mailed to track down complaints of theft.

With Assemblyman William T. Andrews and Attorney Harold Stevens as his counsel, Simon on March 2 entered a guilty plea before Judge Knox in United States Court of the Southern District. The plea was taken under advisement pending investigation by probation officers and Simon allowed to go free under bail. Monday morning before Judge Clancy, Simon, who lives at 48 St. Nicholas place, was sentenced to six months in the federal prison but sentence was suspended.

Known as a stormy petrel in Elkdom, Simon was suspended from the order in 1937 for refusing to turn over records of his lodge to Grand Lodge officials for an investigation of the affairs of Manhattan Lodge. At various times since then he has sought reinstatement, was successful in affiliating with Brooklyn Lodge but was dropped again when the Grand Lodge threatened to suspend the entire Brooklyn Lodge for accepting Simon's application.

Police Claim Capture Of Harlem Gang

NEW YORK, Dec. 1—Police and citizens in Harlem are congratulating Detective Berts as a result of his capture of an alleged gang of holdups charged with terrorizing the district for several months. All told the men two

Bob Anderson

James Lang

ofwhom are being held without bail, are charged with more than 20 holdups of stores and apartments in Harlem.

According to the police, William Watkins, alias "Liquor-head," an ex-newsboy, one of the arrested pair is one of the leaders. Also taken was Richard Carter, who it is charged was armed when picked up at 130th street.

Trails One of Gang

The detective spotted William Watkins at 120th street and Lenox avenue and trailed him to 263 West 130th street. Here he was picked up along with Carter. Following this arrest Barts threw out the net that resulted in James Lang, 136 West 118th street and Robert Anderson, alias Red Dawson, being picked up on the same charge. The latter pair was pointed out to the detective as answering the description of two men who had held up a store at 145th street and Lenox avenue.

When the men were taken before the police showup they were allegedly identified as the ones who had held up several stores. Among those places listed as held up were grocery store, 1842 Madison; store at 1712 Park avenue; candy store, 20 West 118th street; grocery store, 117 West 117th street; grocery store, 385 Manhattan; tailor shop, 216 West 11th street; grocery store, 2829 Eighth avenue; grocery store, 584 Manhattan, and a tailor shop at 2063 Seventh avenue.

B. K. BRUCE ACCUSED IN MONEY DEAL

They didn't want to look at the birdie—but definitely. At the sight of the camera they put on a spreading act but The Amsterdam News lensman got 'em anyhow. At right is Burrill K. Bruce, accused by a Harlem woman of unlawfully withholding money she turned over to him in a business deal. At left, almost out of the picture, is Bruce's noted father, Roscoe Conkling Bruce. Next to Burrill is a young lady who not only was quick enough to turn her back but also managed to keep her identity secret. The trio were snapped just as they were about to enter the court building.

Lead Belly

Please, Gov'ner Neff, be good an' kind,
An' if I can't get a pardon, will you cut my time?
If I had you, Gov'ner Neff, like you got me,
I would wake up in the mornin' and set you free.

This plea, crooned in a soft baritone over the twanging of a cracked and patched guitar, once swayed Texas' Governor Pat Morris Neff into granting a pardon to the coal-black, swampland Negro who sang it. The Negro, Huddie ("Lead Belly") Ledbetter, self-styled "King of de twelve-string guitar players of de worl'," had been sentenced seven years before for murdering another Negro in a brawl over a woman. Out of jail, Lead Belly combined his career of gin, women and song with a job in a Houston Buick agency. Five years later, in 1930, Lead Belly was jugged again, this time in the Louisiana State Penitentiary, convicted of stabbing six Negroes in a fight over a can of whiskey. But again Lead Belly's minstrelsy came to his rescue. Texas' eminent Folklorist John A. Lomax, poking about the jails and slums of Louisiana in search of folk ballads, heard Lead Belly sing, found him a walking encyclopedia of salty Negro "sinful songs" and ballads. At Lomax' suggestion Lead Belly was pardoned again.

Bernard Hoffman

HUDDIE LEDBETTER
Again, the old story.

Taking Lead Belly north with him to Manhattan, Folklorist Lomax gave him a first shove up the ladder by presenting him in a concert before radio scouts, theatrical agents and pressmen. Lead Belly prospered, bought himself a new guitar, drawled his rhyme-sprouting improvisations in concert halls and over the air. In 1935 he sent for his best girl, swarthy Martha Promise, a Shreveport, La. laundress, and married her in one of the "shoutin'est" suburban weddings Manhattan's Negro colony had ever seen.

But last week it was the old story. Standing in Manhattan General Sessions, greying, 54-year-old Lead Belly once again heard a jury pronounce him guilty. Offense: stabbing and slashing Henry Burgess, another Negro, at a party in a Westside rooming house.

Colored Men Involved In $5,000,000 Plot On Browning Estate

NEW YORK.—(ANP)—Clarence Brisby and H. S. Boulin, both colored men, have been involved in the plot to seize control of the $5,000,000 estate of Edward W. (Daddy) Browning.

Brisby, butler for the late Daddy Browning, is missing and so are some dictaphone recordings, according to the district attorney's office. Brisby is scheduled for arrest as a material witness when found.

Boulin, a member of a colored detective agency, was brought into the case when he was detailed to get Brisby's story of the signing of a codicil to the supposed will left by Browning. In securing the story, Boulin is said to have used the now missing dictaphone records.

When Boulin filed a claim for remuneration for his work, a request was sent out for the records. It was then it was learned they were missing.

Arrest Carolinian for Assault on Negro in Automat

A show of white chauvinism in New York took a licking Tuesday afternoon, when John Backett, a white man from North Carolina, was arrested for assaulting W. C. Handy, Jr., Negro son of the "Father of the Blues," and author of the St. Louis Blues in the Horn and Hardardt Automat at 47th St. and Broadway.

Young Handy had entered the automat, secured his food, and was about to sit down, when, Backett, said to him:

"Oh no, you don't sit at this table! I'm from Carolina and no nigger sits at a table with he."

Handy ignored this statement, and started to place his tray on the table, when the white man struck him on the mouth and knocked him down while he still held the tray in his hands.

Roi Ottley, a journalist friend of Handy's who was eating at an adjoining table, came to Handy's aid, when white friends of Backett, seated at the same table with Backett, started to gang-up on Handy. Soon the Automat was in an uproar as Ottley and the white man knocked down tables and food as they fought.

The police were called in and Ottley and Backett were arrested and taken before Magistrate Andrews of the 7th District Court, on charges of disorderly conduct and assault. Backett was found guilty and sentenced to two days in jail or a fine of five dollars. he was unable to pay the fine. Magistrate. Andrews in sentencing Backett, lectured him on the difference between New York and the South as it affects Negroes, and informed him that "**Negroes have rights which you are bound to respect.**" The case against Ottley was dismissed.

Politician Is Held For Striking Girl

NEW YORK, June 9—High bail was ordered for William Montana, prominent Harlem politician who lives at 136 West 134th street, for his alleged part in an altercation that resulted in the beating of Miss Ruth Jackson of 219 West 134th street.

According to Miss Jackson, Montana struck her in the face, kicked her and mauled her while others looked on.

The altercation took place at a party during an argument over the liquor supply. From the testimony it seems that neither party could decide upon who was to replenish the fastly fading supply of intoxicants at the party. Each felt the other was irresponsible and when their ideas could not agree an argument started.

Man Jailed

Montana was arrested by Detectives Connelly and Nelson shortly after the alleged attack. He was leaving the party at the time the cops arrived. Up before Magistrate Cooper in Manhattan felony court Montana was ordered held in high bail.

Montana, a well known Harlemite, is a prominent politician frequently being associated with the big shot politicians in the district. He has handled campaigns of several candidates who are well backed in the territory.

When questioned Montana denied striking the woman or engaging in an altercation. He did admit being present at the party and hearing a noise that indicated someone had engaged in a "battle" of some kind The case is due to come up in special sessions court later this week.

A Disgrace to New York City.

The brutal hoodlum attacks which have been taking place recently against Negroes in the Washington Heights-Riverside Drive area, are lynch crimes which have absolutely no place in New York City.

From all indications, they are traceable to the greedy landlords who play one race against another, and to the "Christian Front" gangs inspired by the fascist Coughlin. These gangs are getting more and more daring with their violence, trying to set Protestant against Catholic, Jew against Gentile, and Negro against White.

A Negro railroad worker lies perilously near death in the Harlem hospital as a result of the beating suffered Monday night at Riverside Drive and 149th St. Two other Negro youths were savagely assaulted Tuesday night near 150th St. Five similar cases have taken place in this locality recently.

Forced by wretched housing conditions and by the misery and squalor of Harlem, the Negro people sought to live in Washington Heights and other sections of the City—as is their constitutional right. So the landlords seeking fantastically high profits move white tenants out and move in Negro tenants at double and treble the rents. They reap a harvest of gold from this discrimination against the Negro, and the "Christian Front" gangs help to fan the flames of race hatred.

At the meeting last Wednesday night under the auspices of the Washington Heights and Inwood Coordinating Committee in behalf of Persecuted Minorities, Jewish and Christian leaders—Negro and white—condemned these attacks. These meetings represent democratic New York and more such unity actions should take place.

It is up to the Police Department to see that this fascist gangsterism is stopped. The reported statement of one officer that the Negro people "are looking for trouble" is a slander which only incites these vicious anti-Negro attacks. Commissioner Valentine should leave no stone unturned in ending this fascist hoodlumism and in protecting the Negro people in their citizenship rights.

Rich Couple Beat Her, Negro Maid Charges

Gets Court Summons Against Yonkers Pair for Alleged Beating; Cook Backs Charges; Clerk Forced to Act; Exploitation Exposed

Louis B. and Jeanette Altshul, reputedly among the wealthiest residents of Mt. Vernon, N. Y., were served with summonses yesterday afternoon to appear in court there Monday to answer charges of beating and kicking their Negro maid, Mrs. Bessie Brown, of 22 W. 123rd St., New York City, last Wednesday.

Mrs. Brown got out of bed against a physician's orders yesterday afternoon to go to Mt. Vernon to have the summonses issued, having learned since the alleged assault the right procedure in bringing her wealthy and influential former employers to account before the law.

Mrs. Brown said yesterday, and was backed up by Miss Ruby Foster, cook in the Altshul home at the time of the alleged assault, that when she tried last Wednesday to bring action through the court against Mr. and Mrs. Altshul she was insulted by the court clerk. Insisting that he did not believe her story, because the Altshuls were "nice people," the clerk charged her with drunkenness, Mrs. Brown said, and refused to enter her complaint.

Mrs. Brown and Miss Foster went to Mt. Vernon yesterday accompanied by reporters, including a representative of the Daily Worker. The clerk this time was forced to issue summonses, returnable Monday morning.

KICKED IN STOMACH

Mrs. Brown charged in her complaint that she was struck on the head with a telephone when she attempted to phone the police to prevent being injured and that while she was helpless from pain she was kicked in the stomach. She charged also that Altshul struck her in the face with his fist and that both he and his wife showered abuses upon her.

Miss Foster, the cook, came to the assistance of Mrs. Brown, they both agree, and later accompanied her to the police station and to the clerk's office. They declared that the police laughed at their charges that Mrs. Brown had been beaten by the wealthy and influential Altshuls and refused to listen to a plea for an ambulance to take the injured woman to a hospital.

CHARGE EXPLOITATION

Both young women declared that working conditions in general were bad in the Altshul home. They said that not only were they required to do extra work and to perform tasks not originally agreed upon, all without extra pay, but that they had as the chief meal of the day two eggs, black coffee and bread, and nothing more.

Complaints, they declared, brought threats of dismissal, Mrs. Brown had gone to work there on Aug. 7. Miss Foster had been working only one day. Mrs. Brown declared that this sort of condition was common, there being a constant going and coming of household help.

Matters came to a head, both young women agreed, when Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Altshul quarreled last Wednesday, Mrs. Altshul, according to the maid, calling the young Negro woman a "vile, unprintable name," Mr. Altshul joined his wife, it is charged, beating and kicking Mrs. Brown until Miss Foster came to her assistance.

CRIME- 1939

NORTH CAROLINA

Burgess Whitehead Given $22 Fine for Assaulting Woman

Mrs. Hazel Grimes Alston, 18-Year-Old Housewife, Knocked Down Twice by N. Y. Giant's Second Baseman in N. C. Store

(Special to The Tribune)

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C. — Mrs. Hazel Grimes Alston, 18-year-old housewife, filed a $5,000 damage suit in Nash Superior Court against Burgess Whitehead, second baseman of the New York Giants baseball club, for injuries received when the latter allegedly knocked her down with his fist in a downtown store here a month ago.

Whitehead's case came up in City Court Tuesday morning, October 31, and he was found guilty of assault and fined $22 by Vice Recorder Jack Murchison. Mrs. Alston filed her suit, through her attorney, T. T. Thorne, white, former mayor of Rocky Mount, last week.

The case recalls the now famous Jake Powell incident, except for the fact Powell merely talked of hitting Negroes while Whitehead put his words into his fists, in striking the young woman.

Heard Him Cursing

Mrs. Alston, at Tuesday's hearing, said she was walking up Main Street and passed by Whitehead when she heard him cursing, apparently to himself.

"He didn't look like he was angry to me," she said. "I went on into a five-and-ten-cent store nearby. He followed me in and asked me if I had just passed his car. I told him I had passed lots of cars. He then swung his fist and hit me in the eye. I fell to the floor. I got up but he hit me again in the same eye and I dropped to the floor again."

Mrs. Alston said Whitehead told her to "call a ---- cop and see if I care."

She testified that she had had to go to a doctor every day for two weeks to have her eye attended to, and still couldn't see well out of it in the mornings.

Boasts of His Act

Whitehead, when he took the stand, freely boasted of his act. "I didn't slap her down — I knocked her down," he said.

He insisted, however, that Mrs. Alston had cursed him as she passed him on the street. He said he cursed back at her, put some purchaess in the car parked near there and then went into the store looking for the girl. He said he found her and slapped her once and hit her once.

"She sorta slumped when I hit her," he said. "But she scratched me."

He made no attempt to report the fight and left the building with the girl following him. He told her "to get the hell away from me," he said, and got in his car and went on to Durham.

Wife Ttestifies

Whitehead's wife took the stand and described the incident, stating that she saw the girl turn her head but didn't hear what was said. "He followed a few steps, and I knew he was mad," the wife said.

Testimony revealed that Whitehead had had a couple of drinks between Lewiston and Rocky Mount, but denied that he was under the influence of liquor.

In the argument following the presentation of the evidence, Solicitor Elmore asserted that it was absolutely illogical to think that the girl would for no apparent reason, turn around and curse a man twice her size.

He described the assault as "wanton" and asked that the professional ball player be given the limit of punishment.

Saw the Affair

Witness to the fracas was J. E. Minter, Jr., operator of a theatre next to the store. He said he saw Mrs. Alston walking by the theatre and the man, who later proved to be Whitehead, walking behind her, cursing her for all he was worth.

According to Minter, the man went from his car into the store. Minter said he followed and saw Whitehead hit Mrs. Alston once but due to the ensuing excitement he could not say positively whether she was hit a second time or not. He described her eye as being swollen very badly when she came out of the store and went to the theatre booth to have officers called.

He added that Whitehead did not appear to be drunk.

Was Popular with Negroes

Whitehead was here the day of the attack, October 3, on a shopping trip from his home at Lewiston. He is a former University of North Carolina student and Phi Beta Kappa man. Two years ago, he underwent an operation at a local hospital, during which time he received numerous sympathies from colored people, as well as white.

The incident has left a sour echo among residents here and it is expected that national protest against Whitehead will play more than a passing note in his future on the diamond.

MRS. HAZEL ALSTON

Cleveland, Tenn. Banner
October 26, 1939

Gov. Hoey Refuses To Stay Execution

RALEIGH, N. C., Oct. 26.—(U.P.)—Gov. Clyde R. Hoey last night refused a request by the secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored people to stay the execution of Willie Richardson, 17-year-old Negro sentenced to die Friday for burglary

'CRUSADERS' TO WIPE OUT CRIME AMONG OWN RACE

Charlotte, N. C. Leaders Inaugurate Novel Plan to Eliminate Wave of Lawlessness and Murders. Idea May Become Nation-Wide.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., March 9.—Dedicated to the purpose of curtailing the shocking homicide epidemic which swept the city of Charlotte last year, the Crusaders, a militant anti-crime group was organized here Sunday.

Conceived as the brain-child of Henry Houston, a prominent Charlotte editor and approved by this city's mayor and its chamber of commerce, the movement has for its objective the stemming of the awesome murder wave which took the tragic toll of 33 lives in 1938.

500 MEMBERS ALREADY ENROLLED

TWO NEGROES WILL DIE IN GAS CHAMBER FRIDAY

Raleigh, April 5.—(AP)—Bat Dejournette and Clarence Bracy, Negroes convicted of first degree murder, will be asphyxiated at central prison on Good Friday.

The two lost their last chance of a stay when Governor Hoey announced today he would not intervene. The last double execution at the prison was on September 23, when Tom Jones and T. J. Jefferson, Forsyth Negroes, were asphyxiated.

Dejournette, 43, was convicted in Guilford county last May of murdering Garland Mangum, a white man. Bracy, 24, also known as David Jiggetts, was convicted in Vance county last October of murdering W. H. Williamson, a white man.

CHAPEL HILL'S NEW JAIL FORMALLY CHRISTENED

Chapel Hill, April 5—(Special)—Chapel Hill's first inmate in its new jail, Robert "Revenue" Guthrie, 32-year-old Negro, failed to pay $31.15 due in old court cases yesterday, and was given a week in which to settle the account.

Recorder L. J. Phipps, who 15 years ago defended Guthrie, his first client for stealing a hearse license tag, and lost, said Guthrie had been a chicken thief, a bootlegger and one of the most frequent petty law violators he had known. He said he was considering Guthrie's appeal to prevent the new jail being called "Guthrie's dormitory."

Charlotte, N. C. Observer
May 1, 1939

NEGRO SOCIETY PLANS PROGRAM

Crusaders' to Sponsor Young People's Song Services Weekly Throughout Summer.

A young people's song service in connection with the weekly forum of The Crusaders, a negro organization which is fighting crime in Charlotte, will be held next Sunday at 4 p. m. in Grace A. M. E. Zion church, and every Sunday thereafter through the summer season. The new program was the outgrowth of yesterday's discussions in the same church, where Henry Houston, founder of The Crusaders, presided.

The forum decided, Houston said last night, that no better way to fight crime among the younger colored people can be found than to gather them into a song service on Sunday afternoons. The departure will be a revival of musical programs held some years ago.

Brutal Penalties In N. C. Shown By Files

SMITHFIELD, N. C.—(ANP)—Rev. J. P. Smith, (white), a retired Presbyterian minister who devotes most of his time to historical research, has brought to light some interesting and startling facts concerning the history and early laws of Josson county, N. C.

One court document, unearthed by Rev. Smith and dating back to 1780, showed that Jenney, Negro woman belonging to the estate of Lewis Bryan, was convicted by the Special court of Eight of poisoning Bryan's father, Needham Bryan, and his family.

The sentence: "The court accordingly order and sentence that the said Jenney be carried back to the place of confinement and in ten days be taken to the ground of the court Green, on Saturday the 18th of this instant (November, 1780), between the hours of twelve and one of the clock in the afternoon, and there to be burnt to death by a stake. The sheriff of the said county to see that the sentence be carried into execution." The strange document was signed by the clerk and by the eight members of the court.

First offender horse thieves were placed in the pillory, their backs bared, 39 lashes laid on, their ears nailed to the pillory and cut off, and the letter H branded on one cheek, the letter T on the other, "in plain and visible manner." For the second offense, the death penalty was to be inflicted. Rev. Smith found no record of an actual branding taking place.

The minister found a record referring to the public whipping post on the Court Green and which showed that on July 23, 1779, one slave, Solomon, convicted of stealing corn on three occasions from the crib of Cary Jernigan, was ordered to "be carried to the public whipping post and receive 39 lashes well laid on his bare back" which sentence was executed immediately.

Still another record showed that the gallows on the Court Green were used to hang one who was convicted of giving a "voodoo powder to Isaac Williams, whereof it is supposed that he came to his death."

Columbia, S. C. Record
April 26, 1939

Two More Suspects Added to Arrests As 'Black Tarzans'

Two more suspected members of the "Black Tarzan gang" were arrested Wednesday morning by city police, bringing the total up to seven. Five confessed members of the band of negro boys who have looted residences and automobiles during the last two months were nabbed Monday.

The police continued to check robberies confessed by the boys, who range in age from 14 to 18, as well as others of which they are suspected.

"It probably will take us several days before we know just how much the gang accomplished," Detective Chief Robert W. Eleazer said.

Six of the boys being held have previous records and have served time in the reformatory. The most serious case against them so far was the instance in which Miss Catherine Cantwell, of 1114 Marion street, was robbed of her purse and suffered a broken arm when knocked down.

No date has been set yet for arraignment of any of the boys pending further investigation of the cases against them.

The "Black Tarzan" designation comes from the 18-year-old boy described as leader of the group. His nickname is "Black Tarzan." He is a tall, gangling negro, much larger than the other boys arrested with him.

Chattanooga, Tenn. News
June 12, 1939

Youth Hurt In Row On T. E. P. Bus

A white youth was slashed with a knife and slightly injured Sunday afternoon when, police said, two drunken Negro women started a row with white passengers on a Power Company bus.

Charlie J. Simmons, of CCC camp No. 420, Lookout Mountain, was cut on the leg when one of the women, said by police to have been Bobbie Richardson, 20, made a sweeping gesture with the blade from the street after getting off the bus at McCallie and Central Avenues.

Several witnesses said the woman had used vulgar language in the presence of several white women and some small children who were riding on the bus.

The Richardson woman and a companion, Ruby Butts, 19, who transferred to an Oak Street trolley, were taken off the car by Patrol Driver Tom Grubb and taken to jail.

Each was fined $50 at a police court hearing Monday by Acting City Judge Tom Jewell. The woman who did the cutting was bound to the grand jury on a charge of felonious assault under a $1,000 bond.

CAR JUST RAN OVER A NEGRO!

So Wealthy White Lumberman Didn't Stop—Arrested Two Days Later For Murder.

GOLDSBORO, N. C., Aug. 31—(Special)—Arrested as the hit-and-run driver who

last Tuesday night ran down and fatally injured Charlie Austin, farm worker, in town to purchase a small store of supplies. Brodie Smith, wealthy 28-year-old white lumberman, was bound over on Thursday to await grand jury action on a charge of murder.

The action was taken following a preliminary hearing in Superior Court which fixed Smith's bond at $2,000. Witnesses testified that the car that struck down Austin, fatally injuring him, as he crossed the street at an intersection, never slackened speed, though it skidded from the impact.

One of the witnesses was able not only to give a description of the car, but also the first three figures of its license number. Through these figures, the car was traced by detectives who located it two days later and arrested Smith.

ANOTHER JAKE POWELL CASE LOOMS IN NORTH CAROLINA

Burgess Whitehead, Star Second Baseman of New York Giants, Held for Assaulting Colored Woman.

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C., Nov. 2—(ANP)—Burgess Whitehead, star second baseman for Bill Terry's New York Giants' baseball team and a Phi Beta Kappa student while attending the University of North Carolina, faced a preliminary hearing Tuesday on charges of assault and battery preferred by Hazel Grimes Alston, local housewife.

The entire community, remembering how in 1938 Outfield Jake Powell of the New York Yankees said over the radio that his chief sport in the winter season was "beating niggers' heads," is aroused over the alleged attack by the big athlete on the petite local woman which resulted in a blackened eye. Powell talked, they say, while Whitehead acted.

According to Mrs. Alston, she was walking along the street in front of a local drug store two weeks ago when she passed Whitehead, who was cursing, and went into a dime store. The athlete followed her and asked if she passed his car. Mrs. Alston told him she passed many cars. Immediately, according to the housewife, Whitehead struck her in the eye and she fell to the floor. When she arose, he struck her again and knocked her down. Going out the door, he told her "call a cop and see if I care."

J. E. Mintor, Jr., operator of the Carolina theatre next door to where the alleged assault took place, was a witness to the attack. He said the athlete passed the theatre immediately behind the woman, cursing violently, and followed her into the store. Minter also went in and declared he saw Whitehead hit Mrs. Alston once, but due to the excitement he did not know whether she was struck a second time. However, he did notice her eye was badly swollen when she went into the theatre to have police called. Minter took the license number of the car in which the ball player left the scene. He added that Whitehead did not appear intoxicated.

When a warrant was obtained, it was learned Whitehead had left the city immediately after the alleged attack. He was arrested in Durham where he posted bond of $150 for a court appearance. Mrs. Alston's attorney, T. T. Thorne, is planning on filing a civil suit for $5,000 against the second baseman.

Carolina Victim Hit In Eye; Accuses N.Y. Giants' 2nd Baseman

Burgess Whitehead Faces Preliminary Hearing On Assault, Battery Charges

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JAILED IN DURHAM

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It was understood Whitehead was on a shopping trip in Rocky Mount from his home in Lewiston where he spends the off season. When he was convalescing at a local hospital two years ago following an operation which kept him out of the Giants' lineup that season, he received the sympathies of colored as well as white. He is well known in this community.

What effect this case will have on Whitehead's future as a Giant is not known. However, the team does have a large following in Harlem and draws many colored patrons in other National league cities. The Yankee management was forced to go to a great length to counteract the ill effects of Powell's talk, with Powell himself appearing at many colored patrons in other National league cities. The Yankee management was forced to go to great lengths to counteract the ill effects of Powell's talk, with Powell himself appearing at many colored newspaper offices to offer a personal apology.

Charlotte, N. C., News
January 23, 1939

Negroes Form Organization Against Crime

Henry Houston, Others Sponsor New Club

Negro citizens of Charlotte are being organized to combat crime among members of their race in a "Crusaders" movement being sponsored by Henry Houston, editor of The Charlotte Post, local Negro newspaper, it was learned here today.

The movement was started yesterday with the enrollment of 10(persons in the congregations o: Dr. H. M. Moore, pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church; the Rev. Charles H. Williams, pastor o: Second Calvary Baptist Church and J. S. Nathaniel Tross, divisional secretary of the American Bible Society.

Mayor Ben E. Douglas has given his endorsement to the program which aims to eliminate, as far as possible, crime among the Negro population of the city.

As soon as 500 persons have joined the movement, a mass meeting will be held to perfect a formal organization. It is hoped that at least 10,000 Negro people of Charlotte will enroll. All those who do join will wear a "Crusaders" lapel button.

Literature in the nature of sermonettes and other writings of a similar nature will be used to achieve the organization's goal, Houston said.

"We want to make the best citizens possible of our people," Houston said in explaining the motive behind the movement.

Prisoners To Appear At State Normal

Unique Programme Endorsed By

Justice in the Courts

Many influences other than blind justice still affect judgments of the courts. Some of them are color, family, birth, and of course, money.

Despite everything we can do, a rich white man of good family can expect greater consideration than can a colored man whose ancestry is unknown.

Criminal statistics covering verdicts for capital punishment in North Carolina over a period of time substantiate this assertion.

Of criminals found guilty of murder and sentenced to die, 54.4 per cent of the whites were not executed. Only 25.5 per cent of colored prisoners found guilty escaped the extreme penalty of the law.

On the basis of these statistics, involving life and death, a white man has twice as much chance as a colored man to get justice in North Carolina.

Most judges have enough moral and legal sense to fight direct influence upon their decisions. But association with white people only, association in the country club, in the university club, in the chamber of commerce, in the interlocking directorates of big business sooner or later will degrade any man however nobly he may aspire, and, to quote the words of William Allen White, Kansas publisher, "give him a sense of the eternal rightness(?) of the established order."

State Officials

Special to Journal and Guide

ELIZABETH CITY, N. C.—Over a period of several months inmates of the Woodville State Prison Camp near here have listened to rehabilitation programs sponsored by the State Teachers College Band under the direction of Prof. James A. Clarke.

Now the procedure is to be reversed, and students of the Teachers College are to hear a program by the prisoners themselves on Monday night, January 16. The unique arrangement, in the form of a citizenship program, has the endorsement of high state officials and is believed to be the first attempt of its kind in the state.

In response to the concerts by the teachers college band, the inmates of the prison camp organized an entertaining team for visitors and requested Prof. Clarke to obtain permission from state officials for their performance at the college.

The students voted 100 per cent to give the prisoners such an opportunity, and President J. H. Bias readily gave his consent. State officials carefull examined the objectives of the program and granted full permission for its execution.

The theme of the program will be: "How the Home, Church, School and State may help to Build better Citizenship." Participating groups in adidtion to numbers by the prison camp inmates, will be the State Teachers College Band, Norman's Band Singers, State Teachers College double quartet.

The discussion on citizenship will be led by Messrs. Perkins, and Walker, and Rev. Council, school teachers at the prison camp, by state directors of education and religion of the State Penal Division, and by President Bias.

Charlotte, N. C., News
February 21, 1939

Negroes Make War Against Crime Here

Mass Meeting Is Set Sunday Afternoon

A mass meeting of 1,000 Negro "Crusaders Against Crime" will be held Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock at Ebenezer Baptist Church, according to an announcement today from H. Houston, director of the movement.

The Rev. Nathaniel Tross, Judge William H. Bobbitt, C. O. Kuester and Judge F. M. Redd will be the speakers at the meeting. Music will be furnished by the choir of Grace A. M. E. Zion Church.

The organization of Crusaders was started with a goal of 500 members. Within a short time, 1,000 persons had joined the group.

A meeting will be held next Monday night at 8 o'clock at Grace Church to discuss the permanent organization.

Charlotte, N. C. Observer
February 22, 1939

NEGROES PLAN FIGHT AGAINST CRIME HERE

The 1,000 members of the Negro "Crusaders Against Crime" will hold a mass meeting at Ebenezer Baptist church Sunday afternoon at 4 o'clock, it was announced yesterday by H. Houston, director of the movement.

Among the speakers will be Rev. Nathaniel Tross, Judge William H. Bobbitt, and Judge F. M. Redd. Music will be furnished by the choir of Grace A. M. E. church.

A meeting will be held at Grace church Monday evening at 8 o'clock to perfect permanent organization. The movement was started with a goal of 500 members. In a short time 1,000 persons had sought and obtained membership.

Charlotte, N. C. News
February 27, 1939

Negroes Form Body To Work Against Crime

"Crusaders" Will Stress Education

A meeting of Negro residents will be held here tonight at Grace A. M. E. Zion Church to complete the organization of The Crusaders a new group which is starting a campaign to fight crime among the colored youth of the city.

A mass meeting was held yesterday at Ebenezer Baptist Church which was filled to capacity. Several white and Negro leaders spoke to the assembly, describing the purpose of the organization.

The group has approximately ,000 members at present, it was announced by Chairman Henry Houston, editor of the Charlotte Post, Negro newspaper. He predicted that 5,000 persons will be members within six months.

Speakers were Judge F. Marion Redd of Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court, Clarence O. Kuester Houston and the Rev. J. S Nathaniel Tross.

The Crusaders' activities will be confined to work among youths and will not include adults, it was said. The group was told yesterday that most crimes are caused by lack of home training, economic stress, poverty and a departure from true ideals in the modern schools and churches.

The United States leads the world in crime more than six to one Judge Redd told the gathering. Statistics show, he said, that one American city had more murders in one year that the entire British Empire had during the same period.

Mr. Kuester reviewed conditions in America and said, "until fathers and mothers take care of their homes, all the churches in the world are not going to save their children."

Several hundred persons signed pledges that they would join The Crusaders following the meeting.

"DREAM" NUMBERS RACKET IS LATEST THING IN NEGRO BELT; MINISTERS LODGE COMPLAINTS A-PLENTY.

Cincinnati, O.—Something new in the "numbers" racket was revealed when two delegations of negro ministers—one from the West End and the other from Walnut Hills—complained that the policy game was depriving many colored households of food and rent money.

The promoters of the racket have incorporated the "dream numbers" phase.

The syndicate, offering odds as high as 500 to 1 for winning numbers accepts bets of from one cent up.

Here is how the "dream numbers" angle operates.

For instance, if a player dreams of being involved in an accident, he should play number 131 with his agent. In the event of committing adultery, numbers 121 should be played.

The folder which was exhibited by the protesting clergymen, contained approximately 99 "dream numbers."

The ministers first called on Vice-Mayor Nicholas Klein and asked that steps be taken to eliminate this form of gambling. After hearing the ministers' complaint, the Vice Mayor turned the delegation over to Safety Director Harry Wernke and Police Chief Engene Weatherly.

The ministers declared that in many cases, all the members of a family patronize a numbers "writer" or agent, who is paid $7 a day for his labor, regardless of the amount of business booked. Sometimes the drain on income is so heavy that families are forced to go on relief.

Virtually every other confectionery and smoke shop in the "Black Belt" is the headquarters for a numbers racket "writer".

The police department promised the ministers its cooperation in eliming the evil.—Cin'ti Enquirer.

Charlotte N. C. Observer
February 27, 1939

NEGROES BEGIN ORGANIZATION TO FIGHT CRIME

The Crusaders Will Work Among Colored Youth.

TO MEET AGAIN TONIGHT

Group Will Not Waste Effort Trying to Reform Adults, Leaders Say.

The Crusaders, foes of crime, began their organization yesterday at a mass meeting of negro residents held in Ebenezer Baptist church on East Second street.

Chairman Henry Houston said the new force for law and order would have 1,000 members by today, and 5,000 six months from now. The organization will be perfected tonight at another meeting to be held at Grace A. M. E. Zion church.

The church was filled to capacity. Judge F. M. Redd, Clarence O. Kuester, Henry Houston, and Rev. J. S. Nathaniel Tross were the speakers.

It will be the objective of The Crusaders to fight crime among the colored youth of Charlotte. They will not try to reform the older folks, the speakers said.

Reasons for the prevalence of crime are many, it was pointed out, but some of the most potent are lack of home training, economic stress, poverty, and a departure from true ideals in the modern schools and churches.

Henry Houston, editor of the Charlotte Post, who for more than one month has been urging such an organization as The Crusaders said his race would not only fight crime in Charlotte, but would also fight for better economic and social conditions.

WORK AMONG YOUTH.

"This is a new day," he said. "This is a new organization. Our greatest work will be among the youth. We must guide them, save them, instead of trying to reform their fathers and mothers."

Dr. Tross, division secretary of the Amercan Bible Society, with headquarters in Charlotte, noted colored church leader, said that changes must take place in the minds and souls of the people before crime is eradicated.

"You may build a thousand jails in Mecklenburg county, and officer them with a thousand guardians of the law, but crime will continue to increase until the heart and mind and soul are changed," he said. "The home, school, and church are the triple agencies of civilization. All three are falling down on the job. The home is disintegrating. The schools are putting new and foreign matters into their curricula. The churches are bringing cults into their midst. The new elements are not helping humans. They are contributing their share to crime. I know I am on dangerous ground when I speak as I am now speaking—but I likewise know that I am stating a truth.

MUST SAVE SELVES.

"It is not for the white man to eradicate crime for us. It is for us to arise and do the job."

Clarence O. Kuester, executive vice president of the Chamber of Commerce, reviewed something of the wealth and power of the United States; the nation's educational advantages, its social and cultural system. Then he compared this to the crime record of America, the greatest on earth. And like the speakers who preceded him, he traced the cause more to home training, or lack of training, than to any other.

"Until fathers and mothers take care of their homes, all the churches in the world are not going to save their children," he said.

DEPLORES U. S. CRIME.

Judge F. Marion Redd of the juvenile court deplored that the United States leads the world in crime more than six to one. He quoted statistics which indicated that one American city had more murders in a single year than were committed in the entire British Empire for the same period.

The murder championship of the world is not a commendable title, he said. Furthermore, the fact that youth leads this gaudy pageantry is not the best commentary on American home life.

"In England they respect the law, revere it, obey it, and they teach their children the same ideals, Judge Redd said. "In America our slogan is to violate the law, but don't get caught."

"What this nation needs," he said, "is a rededication to home life."

Dr. H. M. Moore, pastor of Ebenezer Baptist church, praised Judge Redd for fine work he is doing for the juvenile delinquents, especially among the colored boys and girls."

"He is doing all he can to help," Dr. Moore said. "But let me warn you. Stay out of Judge Redd's court."

At the conclusion of the meeting several hundred came forward with signed pledges that they would join The Crusaders.

Charlotte, N. C., News
February 28, 1939

Negro Y To Observe "Better Boys Week"

Plans are now being made for the third annual Negro Better Boys and Crime Prevention Week to be sponsored here by the Negro Branch of the Charlotte YMCA. it was learned today from W. H. Moreland, general chairman of the Negro Branch.

No definite date for the campaign to bring the problem of crime to the attention of the Negro youth of the city has been set, however, it will be in the near future.

All Negro schools in the city will participate. In order to arouse thought about the crime problem, the students will have talks made to them, will deliver orations themselves and will participate in an essay contest.

NEGRO SURRENDERS TO TARBORO POLICE

Tarboro, April 2.—Shelton Green, a Negro, gave himself up to the police for shooting James Johnson, another Negro, in the abdomen, on Sunday, March 11. After the shooting, Green ran and had evaded capture since.

Last night he walked into the police station, and asked if they were looking for him. They were. He was sent to Recorder's Court.

Green, known to have a pistol for sometime, brandished it at the railroad station two weeks ago, and shot Johnson as he turned to run.

Wilmington N. C. Morning Star, April 1, 1939

CAROLINA JUSTICE

Northern critics of the south will please note the following clear cut expression from *The Cape Fear Journal*, negro newspaper, regarding a recent court case here where the accused was charged with killing a white man:

"This newspaper cannot become excited over the acquittal of FRED JONES, Wilmington negro accused of the first degree murder of a white storekeeper. There was little or no evidence with which to convict JONES. The fact is, the state could not place the defendant within four blocks of the murder scene.

"*The Journal* has observed justice in New Hanover county long enough to know that, for the most part, the color of a man's skin makes no difference to our courts. Therefore, when simple justice is done, as in the case of FRED JONES, it is no more than what we expected."

We might add to *The Journal's* comment that a white man, scion of an aristocratic family, drew thirty years in the courts of New Hanover for the slaying of a negro.

Colored gent rams white gent's car four times,
And lives to tell the story!
Had he been a Jew in Germany,
Or a Negro in Alabam',
His soul would now be in glory.

Thomas Walker, 32, Negro, 722 West Ninth Street, was fined a total of $64 and given a driving suspension of three months Wednesday when convicted by Judge William D. Alexander on charges of reckless driving and leaving the scene of an accident.

Willis Folks, 3766 Vine Street, testified he halted his automobile at Ninth and Race Streets, January 27, to permit an aged woman to cross the street. She was caught in the center of the street when traffic signal lights changed. Walker, he charged, was behind him and ran against his vehicle and knocked it ten feet. Folks said he started to alight and Walker again ran against his vehicle. Twice more Folks said, his automobile was rammed by Walker's vehicle and knocked a total of nearly 60 feet. Walker, Folks said, was angry because he was being delayed.

Folks reported the incident to the Highway Safety Patrol. Officers traced the license number and arrested Walker.

Indict Boley School Head

Case 11-10-39

BOLEY, Okla.—(ANP)—William Hazel, superintendent of the Boys' Training school for colored boys, a state institution located here, was indicted last week on charges involving misuse of relief checks. Mr. Hazel, popular throughout the state and active in politics, is also a merchant in Boley.

White Woman Who Hit Maid Held for Court

Rainey Lectures Her on Prejudice, Sets $300 Bail

PHILADELPHIA — Mrs. Henry Trossman, white, of 4802 N. Broad Street, was held under $300 bail for court by Magistrate Joseph H. Rainey, Fifth and Green Streets, after he delivered a lecture about racial prejudice, when she refused to defend herself on charges of assault and battery against Mrs. Margaret Burns, 1914 W. Dauphin Street, Monday.

Fight over Work

Mrs. Trossman and her husband, Dr. Henry Trossman, a druggist, were arrested, last week, after Mrs. Burns charged them with striking her during an altercation over work.

Although the two defendants made sweeping denials of any blows being passed, they swore out a warrant against Mrs. Burns before Magistrate Joseph A. McDevitt, on charges of assault and battery. The hearing is scheduled for Tuesday.

Dr. Trossman was held under $600 bail for the grand jury, Monday. His wife was granted a continuance. Raymond Pace Alexander represented Mrs. Burns.

Lectures on Prejudice

Magistrate Rainey, in his lecture from the bench, stated that any member of minority groups, such as the Trossmans, who are Jews, should be in sympathy with all other such groups. He cited the right of any person to attend such meetings as he saw fit.

According to testimony during both hearings, Mrs. Burns worked for the family as a maid, and found that her hours were growing longer each day. On Friday night, she was asked to stay overtime and do the family ironing.

She refused, stating that she had to attend a meeting of her ward Democratic Club. She testified that, after listening to several objectionable epithets against herself and any other colored members of the party, she left the house.

When she returned the next morning, it is alleged that the white woman closed the windows and berated her, and other members of that political party. Still using objectionable language, Mrs. Trossman worked herself into such a rage that she slapped Mrs. Burns in the face.

According to further testimony, when Mrs. Burns demanded her pay, the white woman called her husband and the two of them beat her.

Although she displayed several bruises in court, the druggist and his wife denied ever touching her, but their lawyer stated that she might have fallen downstairs. Both defendents deny any such happening.

SINLESS

BETWEEN 60 and 70 colored prisoners who are eligible for parole at Eastern State Penitentiary can not be released on parole because it is impossible to find sponsors who will give them jobs.

These men have paid their debt to society and have shown to the prison authorities that they are fit and worthy to have their opportunity to secure gainful employment.

It appears to THE TRIBUNE that these men are fit and the general public should not turn them down simply because on one occasion they have broken the law. Many men who have "paid the price" for their crimes turn out to be excellent citizens.

Simply because a man has committed a crime does not necessarily mean that he is vicious and dishonest. They deserve a chance. Those who have work opportunities should give these men a chance. During this Christmas season open wide your hearts to the unfortunates who only ask for another chance.

Remember always that "let him who is without sin cast the first stone."

60 Or 70 Men Remain In Prison For Lack Of Jobs

Self-Defense Plea Wins Acquittal for Detective Sergeant

A coroner's jury returned a verdict of justifiable homicide in the case of the fatal shooting of an 18-year-old youth, John Edward Parran, 18, 2212 Twelfth Place, Northwest, by Detective Sergeant J. E. Ennis, white, early Sunday morning.

The boy was slain as he allegedly tried to get away from Sergeant Ennis as the latter sought to arrest him in connection with a series of petty crimes.

Testimony given by Mrs. Katherine Smothers, 1613 Thirteenth Street, Northwest, who said she witnessed the episode, and the four members of the pick-up squad, of which Ennis was a member, conflicted in several instances.

Fired One Shot

In the officers' car were Lieut. Joe Shimon and Detective Sergeants Harry H. Britton, Robert J. Maghan and Ennis. Each testified that Ennis fired one shot, following a scuffle between the officer and the boy.

The detectives testified that Parran dashed out of a parked car on Kingman Place and was caught by Ennis at Kingman Place and Q Street, Northwest. They said the pair fell to the ground but that Parran jumped to his feet and ran to the corner of Thirteenth and Q Streets, where, the officer again collared the youth.

In the second tussle, Parran, it was alleged, slashed at Ennis twice with a penknife, cutting two long gashes in the latter's coat. Ennis said he stepped back, pulled out his gun and shot from the hip at the boy, "without aiming."

Shot in the Back

Parran, he testified, turned as the shot was fired, lunged forward, then ran about 100 feet before dropping to the pavement. The autopsy revealed that the boy was shot in the back, the bullet entering below his left shoulder and traveling upward into his throat.

However, the testimony of the eye-witness, Mrs. Smothers, differs in many respects. She said she saw the shooting from her third story window across the street.

"I was up early, preparing to attend mass, when I looked out of my window and saw two white men chasing a colored man," she said. 'One of the men was on the sidewalk, about 30 feet, behind the colored man, and the other was in the street. Then I saw the man on the sidewalk pull a gun and fire at the colored man, who fell to the pavement."

Mrs. Smothers's testimony bore out that the man who fired, allegedly Sergeant Ennis, wore a light topcoat. This was in contrast to the coat Ennis produced at the hearing which bore two wide gashes in the breast.

According to the detectives, this latter coat was the one slashed by Parran. However, this coat was dark in color.

I eny Witnesses' Tale

It was also brought out at the hearing that an unidentified second eyewitness, an elderly woman, allegedly admonished the officers for shooting the youth. However the policemen previously had denied there were any witnesses in their view.

Parran was sought by police, it was testified, in connection with a series of car lootings in which Edward Wanzer, 18, of 1400 block Corcoran Street, Northwest, was involved.

Wanzer took the stand, and when questioned by the coroner as to what was his occupation, the youth unconcernedly answered: "Stealing."

Wanzer said he and Parran would travel about the city with a bucket, supposedly seeking car washing jobs. However, they would pilfer things from parked cars along the route, he testified.

Boy Was on Parole

Lawrence R. Kirvin, white, of the National Training School for Boys, testified that Parran was on parole from that institution. His assistant, Joseph Kincannon, white, stated that Parran's father had told him that he thought the youth was mentally deranged because the latter had attacked his sister and raised havoc in the home ever since his release from the training school.

Theodore Grant, 531 Florida Avenue, Northwest, a railroad cook, testified that he had been arrested Saturday night as he was about to go into the Howard Theatre midnight show by detectives, who were seeking four overcoats, allegedly stolen by Parran and Wanzer. It developed that Grant had bought the coats for $12 earlier in the day, according to police.

Asks $10,000 For Death of Husband

CHICAGO— Sitting in a poorly-furnished West Side flat this week, a young Negro woman looked forward to collecting $10,000 damages from three city policemen and two former officers whom she accuses of killing her husband.

The woman is Mrs. Corona Robinson, wife of John Robinson, who died in April, 1938, after a brutal beating at the hands of Maxwell Street Station officers. Two of the defendants in the suit, John Bowen and Fred Herman, were dismissed from the force after a sweeping city-wide campaign instituted by the International Labor Defense, the Chicago Civil Liberties committee, the West Side Citizens organization, and the Chicago Daily Record.

The three other defendants—Edward Brown, Bernard Write, and Frank J. Tristano—are still on the force although evidence of eyewitnesses links them with the killing of Robinson.

David J. Bentall, dean of ILD attorneys, said that he hoped to bring Mrs. Robinson's case to trial early in December.

Officer's Badge Removed And Civil Service Board Will Investigate Charges

H. C. Vernon Is Suspended Following Raid On Restaurant; Unprecedented Action Taken To End Lawlessness By Cops

H. C. Vernon, a city detective, must face charges of un-called-for beating up of a person after arresting him and also of being intoxicated while on duty before Nashville's Civil Service Board.

The fact that the person who was beaten up is colored and that it was the words of colored witnesses which resulted in the detective having to face a serious charge, makes the episode unprecedented in Nashville and probably in the South.

The trouble in which Detective Vernon finds himself is the aftermath of an arrest of twelve or thirteen patrons of Mrs. Beatrice Brown's restaurant at 406 Capitol Alley last Sunday night. Previous to the arrest, allegedly, Detective Vernon had beaten up Tom Farris, age 64, a worker at Mrs. Brown's restaurant. The elderly man's version of the trouble in which he was victim is that he was beaten by the detective for no other reason than that he was standing on the sidewalk near the restaurant, which is located at 406 Capitol Alley, watching police officers arrest a man. Farris states that Detective Vernon jumped on him and beat him. When the detective asked Farris where he lived, he stated that he lived at the restaurant and told the detective who disbelieved Farris' statement he could go to the restaurant and find out that he (Farris) was telling the truth about where he lived.

It is stated that Detecive Vernon and Detective Ed Burgess both went into the restaurant where there were a dozen or more customers. The contention of officers was that the customers were disorderly, however, all present contend that they were merely eating and drinking, and, while they were talking, there was no disorder or unusual noise. All of them deny that the victrola in the restaurant was being played at the time of the arrest.

The officer, according to report, used abusive language to some of the customers and also struck a young man who was in there. He then sent for the police car and carried all of the customers to the city hall. The one exception was the elderly Tom Farris whom the officers did not arrest.

The indignant customers were able to reach Mayor Thomas L. Cummings at his home by telephone, telling him of the way they had been mistreated. The mayor made a personal investigation of the case in company with Chief of Police John Griffin. They agreed, it is stated, that the detective had gone beyond his authority in what he had done and decided that Detective Vernon should be suspended and reported to the Civil Service Board.

The restaurant's customers, who were arrested, did not appear to Judge Guild Smith to be a bunch of as "bad actors" as the detective had contended, as the Judge after hearing their cases in Police Court this week, and finding out that all were hard working people, dismissed the disorderly conduct charges. All of the customers caught in the "raid" stated that they were not molested by Detective Ed Burgess, and none made any charge of him being under the influence of liquor. Detective Burgess was not considered as having done anything wrong in the part he played in making the arrests and was not cited to appear before the Civil Service Board.

Tom Farris, the aged man, who states that the detective beat him up, was sent to the city hospital for treatment by order of Mayor Cummings. His injuries were such that he has been unable to go about taking orders for lunches and delivering them this week as he usually has done. A young man has been called in to help with the work.

Ala. Cop Beats Negro, Placed On Probation

Precedent Established In Birmingham: N. A. A.C.P. Pushed Fight

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—Officer Claude Williams, of the Ensley police force, was found guilty of conduct unbecoming an officer, placed on probation for one year and given a public reprimand by the Civil Service Board after he had been examined on charges of beating up Will Hall, a colored resident of Ensley, suburb of this city.

This action against a policeman on such a charge is unprecedented in this city. The complaint was filed and pressed by Arthur D. Shores, an attorney here on the legal committee of the Birmingham NAACP. The opinion of the Civil Service Board served notice to police that they must not attempt to administer punishment to law violators . . . such persons should be placed under arrest and their punishment determined by the courts.

Immediately after the decision, as Attorney Shores was being congratulated by admiring citizens, he was attacked by a person described as a "Negro stool pigeon for police." Citizens surrounding Mr. Shores came to his defense and gave his attacker a severe beatng. Several arrests were made, including that of Shores, but he was freed of any charge, while his chief defender paid a five-dollar fine and his attacker paid one of ten dollars.

REPRIMANDED IN PUBLIC BY CIVIL SERVICE BOARD

Policeman Found Guilty of Unbecoming Conduct in Beating of Negro Resident of Birmingham Suburb

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Tennessee Citizens Aroused Over Police Brutality

By STAFF REPORTER

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — "'Can a woman end police brutality in Memphis?" was the question on the lips of prominent civic and religious leaders here this week, when Mrs. Hazel Ford Greer filed suit for $2,500 (two thousand, five hundred dollars) in the Circuit Court here against Officer George Belote recently.

The case will be heard Thursday, September 21, and will be followed closely by citizens who are eager to cooperate with Commissioner Clifford Davis in his great efforts to put a stop to numerous alleged beatings and murders of race people in this southern metropolis.

Is Prominent Newspaperwoman

Mrs. Greer is the Secretary of the Industrial Leader Newspicture, and Editor of the Woman's department of that race periodical. She is very prominent in civic and religious circles of this city, and has numerous friends in both races.

It all happened when Mrs. Greer was in a Liberty Cash grocery on June 3 of this year. She did not like the piece of meat that the butcher had cut for her and courteously told him that she did not want it. Officer Belote, it is reported, became incensed at the affair and slapped her. Then after slapping her, Officer Belote had her arrested and charged with disorderly conduct.

The case was immediately dismissed in police court.

But "them days is gone forever," even in Nashville.

We expect our friends in office to treat us fairly and humanely and see to it that their subordinates do likewise. Failure to do so gives us the inspiration to remember the dereliction on election day.

ATTENTION: MAYOR CUMMINGS, MR. LUTON

The uncalled for beating given a Negro, reputed to have been under the influence of liquor and asleep, by three of Nashville's policemen, is brought to public attention by a white citizen in a letter to one of our daily newspapers. That letter is published on the first page of this edition of the Nashville Globe.

For fear that the contents of the letter may not have been brought to the attention of officials who have it in their power to stop policemen from engaging in brutal treatment of unoffending and unresisting persons, we are sending a copy of this issue of the Nashville Globe to those officials.

One copy goes to Mayor Thomas L. Cummings.

One copy goes to Mr. Luther Luton, a member of the Board of Public Works, who exercises immediate supervision over our police force, according to our information.

One copy goes to Mr. Lon Foster, Chief of Police of Nashville.

We believe that either official could make a talk to our city policemen, emphasizing what the law is in regard to policemen using force upon persons they have arrested, and what are the Constitutional rights of citizens—even Negro citizens—and that such a talk would have salutary effect.

The Nashville Globe has proven on all occasions its loyalty to the present city administration and has given it the best backing it knew how to give when leading officials have been candidates for office.

We can not be too frank and positive in telling Mayor Cummings and Mr. Luton that police brutality is a thing that will drive away from them their Negro supporters of all classes more effectively than any other injustice the administration can perpetuate or permit.

Time was when Negroes had such short memories that they could easily forget injustices perpetrated by their friends in office under the spell of oratory delivered to our church congregations and especially, if the orators before departing laid a substantial donation to the rally on the collection table.

Baltimore Cops Who Shot 2 Negro Lads, Acquitted

Negro Population, Civic and Union Groups Indignant at Exoneration in Brutal Slaying; Press for Grand Jury Action

BALTIMORE, Oct. 2.—The five policemen responsible for killing of two young Negroes here on September 21 were reinstated on the police force. They had been suspended after two young Negro boys, Lawrence Harvey, 19, and Eugene Duval, 18, were shot.

The shooting took place when the five policemen were making a raid on an alleged gang of petty thieves in the yard of public school 112. According to the testimony brought out at a hearing in Magistrates Court which "exonerated" the officers, when the policemen approached four boys who were gathered in a group in the yard they called upon them to stand still.

Two of the boys were taken by patrolman Butler a Negro. The other two ran and the white officers opened fire killing both.

Although the officers tried to bring out that the boys had a gun and had shot back at them, eye-witnesses pointed out that they did not see any of the boys do any shooting. A gun allegedly belonging to the boys that was reported found in the yard after the shooting took place could only shoot with a great deal of difficulty and according to reliable sources could not have been used in the quick action that took place.

The Negro neighborhoods in Baltimore are seething since this latest act of police brutality took place. The Communist Party had a street corner meeting at which over two hundred people living in the neighborhood where the shooting had taken place, registered their protests.

The Young Communist League is holding another meeting in this same neighborhood Saturday night at which Sam Banks, YCL organizer will speak. The National Association for the Advencement of Color People now having a drive for 5,000 members in Baltimore is making the campaign against police brutality, their chief point for the drive. Many Negro churches and organizations are sending resolutions demanding that the Governor and the States attorney have the policemen bought before the Grand Jury.

UNIONS PROTEST

Trade Unions and progressive groups have also been urged to act against this policy of killing.

W. A. C. Hughes attorney for the mothers of the boys who were killed reported to a meeting of the NAACP that he had received telephone threats to "lay off the police department or else." Hughes is the head of the legal staff of the NAACP in Baltimore. He has been very active in attempting to make the States attorney bring the policemen to the Grand Jury for a hearing.

Negro Congress Reports New Cases of Police Brutality

The National Negro Congress reported this week several alleged cases of police brutality in the District of Columbia.

According to John P. Davis, national secretary, the latest of these involved Louis Valencia, 28, 3212 Sherman Avenue, Northwest.

Valencia was arrested late Saturday night at Eighteenth Street and Columbia Road, Northwest, on charges of parking between safety zone and curb and intoxication.

Struck With Blackjack

Valencia Tuesday, told the Tribune that he went to sleep in his car.

He was awakened by Sergeant A. B. Clark, of the Thirteenth Precinct. He accused the officer of striking him with a blackjack over his left eye and on his right temple.

"The next thing I remember, I was in Freedmen's Hospital on an operating table," he said.

Sergeant Clark, in his report to station headquarters, said that while he was at the patrol box, Valencia struck at him with his fist and in order to maintain the arrest he was forced to use his fist and blackjack, striking the youth on the head.

Charged with Assault

Valencia was treated at Freedmen's Hospital by Dr. C. M. Gill, according to police, for multiple contusions of the scalp. He was returned to No. 13 and another charge, assaulting a police officer, was lodged against him.

In police court Monday, Valencia pleaded guilty to the charge of intoxication and was fined $10.

The National Negro Congress has filed a protest with the police commission against this and similar alleged cases of police brutality.

Police Brutality On the Increase In Washington

WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 13—Police brutality against Race citizens, which has been a constant source of complaint for four or five years, reared its head again recently, after a lull of a year.

The National Negro Congress branch of this city reported this week several cases of police brutality, some of which have already been carried to the courts. The latest case was that of the beating of a man, Louis Valencia, who was arrested for intoxication so seriously by a white policeman, that he was knocked unconscious and had to be treated at the hospital for contusions of the scalp.

Another case, now in civil court, is one filed by Mrs. McKinney, wife of Dr. Arthur McKinney, Howard university professor, and her mother against a special officer, suing him for $10,000 damages for assaulting them.

After consistent protests and pressure from citizens' groups for two or three years, the number of police brutality cases here were reported decreased last year. But in recent months, this number has been on the increase again.

Police Face Charges After Their Attack On Boy Is Reported

Three police officers will face departmental charges late this month as the result of complaints made to the office of Police Commissioner Valentine in the case of James Samuel, 19-year-old evening school senior of Brooklyn as sequel to a court scuffle between the police officers and the youth each charging the other with assault. After much re-arrangement of charges and counter charges the case was finally tried on Thursday before Justices McDonald, Kozicke and Hoffman in Special Sessions, Part II.

His parents agreed to reduce their son's counter charge of third degree assault so that the case would not have to be sent to a higher court, thus inadvertently protecting the policemen. The magistrate allegedly after influencing the boy to plead guilty to striking the officer insisted that Samuel apologize to the patrolman in open court.

Through the efforts of William Pickens jr., with offices at 38 Park ow, the plea of "guilty" which amuels had agreed upon at the uggestion of the magistrate was hanged to the original "not guily" and the counter charges gainst the patrolman and his two ssociates brought to the attention f Police Commissioner Valentine's ffice.

Widow Of Police Victim Plans To Sue For $10,000

CHICAGO, Ill.—(SNS)— Sitting in a poorly-furnished West Side flat this week, a young Negro woman looked forward to collecting $10,000 damages from three city policemen and two former officers whom she accuses of killing her husband.

The woman is Mrs. Cleona Robinson, wife of John Robinson, who died in April 1938 after a brutal beating at the hands of Maxwell Street Station officers. Two of the defendants in the suit, John Bowen and Fred Herman, were dismissed from the force after a sweeping city-wide campaign instituted by the International Labor Defense, the Chicago Civil Liberties Committee, the West Side Citizens Organization, and the Chicago Daily Record.

The three other defendants—Edward Brown, Bernard White, and Frank J. Tristano—are still on the force although evidence of eye-witnesses links them with the killing of Robinson.

David J. Bentall, dean of ILD attorneys, said that he hoped to bring Mrs. Robinson's case to trial early in December.

White Woman Reporter Pens Graphic Story Of Brutality By The Police

Pittsburgh, Pa. Courier 11-18-39

Bakersfield, Cal. Citizens Up in Arms Following Alleged Beating.

BAKERSFIELD, Cal., Nov. 16—The Negro population of this town is up in arms, stirred to indignation by a white reporter's account of the beating of Leo True Renfro, 36, by two officers of the Bakersfield Police Department.

According to Renfro's story, the policemen, Officers Vernon Furry and Benjamin Vanderpool, dragged him from his automobile on the night of October 8, assaulted him with revolvers and night-sticks, and beat him into insensibility. Miss Thelma Miller, white, reporter for the Bakersfield Morning Herald, saw the incident and wrote a graphic story for her paper the next morning.

Her vivid account instigated the organization of a Negro Citizens' Protective Committee and called Attorney C. Taylor, of Los Angeles, here to take charge of the case.

Attorney Taylor, who spent Monday, November 6, here investigating the case, told reporters Monday night that when he talked to Renfro in Bakersfield County Jail, the man's arm was in a plaster cast and his head and face showed evidence of a terrific beating.

Renfro has been charged with the possession and transportation of narcotics. The charge was filed several days after he had been beaten and the story exposed in the daily papers. Attorney Taylor said he is convinced that the charge is a frame-up, and he will so plead in the Superior Court of Kern County when the trial comes up this month.

2 Officers Beat, Kill Memphian

1-24-'39

Commissioner Charges Both With Murder

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—(SNS)—The Binghampton subdivision here was terrorized by two policemen, Elmer F. Broens, 26, and R. G. McElroy, who while off duty, shot and fatally wounded 43-year-old Phillip Hardley of 308 Harrell street Sunday morning.

The officers have been suspended by Cofmissioner Cliff Davis and charged with murder. Both patrolmen are new recuits on the force.

Witnesses charge that the officers appeared to have been under the influence of intoxicants at the time of the shooting. It was said the officers, after completing their tour of duty, had gone to Hadley's home and found him cooking his morning meal.

BEATEN IN HOUSE

Forcing him to come out to the squad car, they allegedly began beating him. They later carried him back in his house and resumed the beating, striking him about the head with their blackjacks.

Hadley, attempting to escape started running through his rear door, but was caught in the back by a police bullet before he could get off his back porch.

With blood oozing out of the hole in his back, Hadley staggered down the steps and stumbled across his back yard in a desperate attempt to get away. Just as he reached the fence which separates his property from that of his neighbor, a second police bullet was sent crashing through his body. The mortally wounded man fell over the wire fence, where his body was found

Maconites Press Probe Of Officer Who Hit Girl, 17

Raise Money To Aid Prosecution Of Policeman

By BILL ANTHONY

MACON, Ga.—Citizens of both races of this city are relentless in their demands that the officer who reportedly was unnecessarily brutal to seventeen-year-old Miss Sarah Scott, pretty Ballard student, be removed from the Macon police force

Over thirty dollars has been raised, two lawyers retained and editorials and letters of protest written by persons condemning the alleged brutal treatment of the student.

4-6-'39

According to Miss Scott, she was skating down Main Street in company with several other students on their way to a basketball game on February 8 when an officer listed as A. J. Milherons came up and ordered them in a rough manner to take their skates off and get off the sidewalk as they didn't have any business in that section anyway.

BEGIN REMOVING SKATES

The skaters immediately stopped and began removing their skates, it was stated, but it seems that Miss Scott did not get hers off fast enough to suit the officer.

According to Miss Scott's own story:

"I was kneeling down taking my skates off. He let me take one off, then came up and stood over me and started hurrying me up. The skate was hung and I had further trouble getting it off.

"He then hit me with an open hand on the shoulder and when I started to rise and fell toward him, hit me on the nose with his fist, causing my nose to start bleeding. Then he dragged me for half a block up to a call box and sent for the patrol wagon. It came and they took me to jail and placed me in a cell where I stayed for five minutes. It seems that the new had spread around and interested citizens had come to my rescue."

So much protest was launched from the beginning and so much pressure brought to bear due to the standing of the girl and her parents in the community that in the recorder's court trial the judge ordered a suspended sentence to the charges of disorderly conduct and resisting an officer.

From then on the flow of protests strengthened and the Macon Civic Committee started meeting with the police committee while requesting that the officer be removed from the force.

According to reports, the accused policeman was removed from the Main Street patrol and sent to another part of the city. Further action is forthcoming on the case at an early police committee meeting, it was learned late Monday.

Detroit Mayor Plans To Probe Police Brutality

1-24-'39

DETROIT, Mich., July 28—The Police Brutality committee had a two-hour hearing Thursday before Mayor Richard Reading, who promised that the alleged charges of police brutality would be investigated and the guilty officers pumished. The committee was assured that the case would not be whitewashed.

Dr. J. J. McClendon, branch president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, headed the committee. Dr. McClendon told the mayor that the group had not come seeking protection for criminals against the law, but rather to see that justice was meted out by the proper authority. He declared that police brutality is on the increase.

Mayor Reading replied that regardless to race, color or creed, criminals should be punished by the judge and not the police officer.

Dr. McClendon spoke concerning Prosecutor Duncan McCrea refusing warrants for police officers who beat Frank L. Roberts and read letters from others, complaining of brutalities coming from police.

The Rev. Horace White, pastor of Plymouth Congregational church, said, "Detroit will continue to have a poor rating by the civil liberties union, respect for the police department will continue to decline, if policemen continue to seek to maintain law and order by beating up a few members of the Race every Saturday night."

Twenty-eight brutality cases were read by the Reverend Owen Knox, who assured Mayor Reading the committee did not want the cases investigated by the police department, because such would probably result in a whitewash. He said the committee wanted to present the situation to the common council.

"You have submitted a number of cases, you charge the police have exceeded their authority and beaten up people. They were not all Negroes. I think we have a splendid police department. There are 3,700 men, and if there are those who make slips, they will not happen again," said Mayor Reading. He also stated that he would place the responsibility for future disturbance upon police precinct inspectors. He held a manual containing the rules and regulations in his hand and promised that they would not be violated. No home would be entered by the police without complying with the law.

He asked that the committee furnish affidavits of the things they said had taken place. He added, "I do not know whether they happened or not." Rev. White then asked, "Do you mean to tell us you do not know these charges happened when we have the records here and have just read them to you?"

"If you will furnish me with affidavits I will have them investigated through the Police Trial board. There will be no attempt to whitewash these investigations," the mayor stammered.

DEMAND PROBE AS COPS DENY BRUTALITY CHARGE

Charges and denials marked the latest developments in the alleged police brutality case which has rocked the southside since the death of Dewitt Cannon, property owner and father of four chidren, in his home at 5247 Prairie avenue on June 6.

Civic organizations, aroused over what has been termed a "second John Robinson" case this week took steps to lay the basis for criminal prosecution of Officers Sylvester Washington and Jacob Woods, whom they charge with so severely beating Cannon that death was a result.

Cannon was arrested by the officers on a charge of disorderly conduct on June 2. His trial, set for June 5, at Branch 34, Municipal court, was postponed when the officers were unable to appear because of election duty at the polls. It was to be heard June 9 and Cannon was released on bond. He died the next day.

Launch Investigation

An investigation, occasioned when the family of the deceased charged Officers Washington and Woods with responsibility in Cannon's death, was launched by George F. McCray, executive secretary of the National Negro Congress. McCray was supported by Ira Lattimer, secretary of the Chicago Civil Liberties committee and Irving Krane, secretary of the International Labor Defense.

The latter two organizations led the fight which resulted in the ouster of two, and the suspension of two other policemen who administered a brutal beating which resulted in the death of John Robinson, on the Westside last year.

Charges of police brutality in the Dewitt Cannon case, Secretary McCray stated, are based on affidavits from a half dozen eye witnesses. Police Commissioner James Allman was requested to take immediate steps to suspend the officers involved pending a more thorough investigation, he added.

Deny Charges

These charges are denied, however, by Officers Washington and Woods who are supported by the report of Dr. T. A. Carter, coroner's physician, who examined Cannon's body at the Roscoe Taylor morgue, where it was taken following his death. Dr. Carter stated that death was due to a ruptured appendix, resulting in peritonitis.

The BEE queried Undertaker Taylor, who stated he was present at the time an autopsy was performed on Cannon's body. Taylor upheld the coroner's physician's findings, stating he noticed no marks of violence or bruises which might have indicated that Cannon had been maltreated.

Dr. Carter was also interviewed. He stated the coroner ordered an autopsy when charges of police brutality resulting in Cannon's death were made. He said the examination of the deceased's body showed no signs of mistreatment, nor did it bear any marks of violence.

Police Who Killed Boy Face Suit

DETROIT, June 9—(UNP)—The local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and Clarence Lothridge will sue Police Officer Bert Mitchell, who slew 15-year-old Leo Lothridge two weeks ago for $10,000 it was announced this week. Atty. Charles Beury will file suit.

Leo was shot to death by Patrolman Williams as he allegedly fled the scene of a theft. Lothridge had gone to Dave's Cut Rate store, and according to the manager the youth acted suspiciously.

As young Lothridge left the store without making a purchase, Manuel Norman, a store clerk, said he noticed a bulge beneath his coat and he attempted to stop him for questioning. The boy ran, according to the police, and Officer Bert Mitchell gave chase.

Patrolman Mitchell told his superiors that he saw Lothridge run up the railway embankment and hop a west-bound freight train. He then opened fire.

The bullet caught the 15-year-old boy in the lower right part of the back and he fell to the ground dying almost instantly.

3 Pennsylvania Cops Held For Grand Jury For Attacking Negro

NEW CASTLE, Pa.— (CNA)— Three local white policemen have been held for the Grand Jury in connection with the brutal, unwarranted attack against Henry Bell, WPA worker.

Squire Arthur Kimmell, of Lakewood, handed down a decision holding police lieutenant Suber and officers Hagen and Tewell for the grand jury after James Keller, attorney for Bell, presented evidence that the police had violated the state law dealing with unreasonable search and seizures. Specific charges of assault and battery were preferred.

Bell was attacked three weeks ago, while resting in bed, by several police who entere dand began beating him mercilessly. After 15 minutes, neighbors could hear Bell's cries of agony. He was rushed to the Jameson Memorial Hospital where his injuries were treated.

After a night in jail, he was discharged without a hearing. A Committee for Defense of Negro Rights was formed to protest the brutal attack and the anti-Negro attitude of the local Republican administration.

The committee is preparing a mass meeting at the CIO Hall to rally the community against police violations of civil liberties. Invited speakers include John Murray, Steel Workers' Organizing Committee director; Ben Careathers Communist state leader; and Homer S. Brown, State Representative.

Atty. A. D. Shores Found Not Guilty Of Disorderly Conduct After Police Brutality Case

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—(SNS)— Lawyer Arthur D. Shores, charged along with three other citizens for disordely conduct when the four were allegedly in an altercation in the Courthouse following the trial of Officer George Williams Wednesday, Thursday was found "not guilty by reason of self defense" in Judge Martin's Court. The four Wednesday were placed in city jail and later released on bond.

It was charged by Monroe Conner, taxicab operator that Shores and G. H. Lucius joining in the melee.

Hollins and Lucius drew $5 fines each and court costs while Conner drew a fine of $10 and court cost. Hollins, Shores, and Lucius were represented by Lawyer Crampton Harris, noted white barrister and former law partner of Justice Hugo Black.

Attorney James Adams representing Conner, tried to lug the name of the NAACP into the trial but was blocked by the judge. Lawyer Adams asked Shores if he (Shores) had made the statement he "was fighting white people and was going to make them put Negroes where they belong." Shores answered, "No".

Gainesville, Fla. Sun
July 6, 1939

Officers Held On Charge Of Beating Boys

Warrants Sworn Out By Negro Youths

OCALA (AP) — An alleged case of the hanging and beating of two negro boys by two officers of the Dunnellon police force, who are said to have sought a confession to a robbery, was disclosed today.

Assistant State Attorney James M. Smith, Jr., said Chief of Police Lawton Simms of Dunnellon was charged with assault with intent to commit manslaughter, and that night Officer Lawton Beal was charged with being an accessory. He said warrants were sworn out by Constable A. F. Hintze of Dunnellon.

The two boys, K. C. Simpkins, 14, and James Wesley Scott, 16, charged in a sworn statement, Smith said, that Chief of Police Simms and night Officer Beal arrested them without a warrant, put them in jail, and one night last week took them out into a woods, put ropes about their necks, pulled them up on a limb of a tree, and beat them.

The younger boy, Simpkins declared he was hit in the head with a pistol butt, the assistant state attorney said.

Sheriff Gordon Moorhead said the boys are in the Marion County jail in Ocala where they have been since last Thursday, under the care of a physician. Both boys, the sheriff said, have wounds indicating a rope was pulled tightly around their necks.

Cops Tried For Murdering Man While Drunk, Are Freed

MEMPHIS, Mar. 9—(ANP)—Although their superiors at police headquarters testified they were drunk and witnesses told how they shot down a Negro they sought to question in cold blood, Elmer B. Broens and Roy G. McElroy, both 26, and former policemen, were freed last week, after standing trial on charges of murdering Philip Hadley.

McElroy, tried first, was released when Judge Wallace directed the criminal court jury to acquit him because "testimony shows the officer was across the street at the time of the shooting and could not have been guilty."

OFFICER ACCUSED IN ASSAULT CASE

Negro Files Charges Against Policeman C. E. Henderson With Civil Service Board, Alleging Conduct Unbecoming An Officer

Charges were brought against a city policeman today before the Civil Service Board charging that the officer is guilty of conduct unbecoming an officer, assault and battery and unlawful arrest of a Negro.

Charges were brought by counsel in behalf of Clarence Taylor, Negro, against C. E. Henderson, the policeman.

Taylor charged that on the night of Feb 21 he was walking with another Negro on 12th-av, n. between 29th and 30th-sts, when he was stopped by Officer Henderson and M. Hancock, another officer.

Struck Again

Taylor charges that he was struck by Officer Henderson. Taylor said the officers took him to his home rear of 4301 30th-st, n. He said he was struck again at his home.

He charged that Officer Henderson searched his home and found some empty pistol shells.

Taylor charged that he was assaulted three times by Officer Henderson.

Taylor said that the officer asked, "Negro, have you ever been in jail?"

When Taylor answered "No," the officer is quoted by Taylor as saying: "Well, you don't know what you have missed. I'm going to put you there."

Later Acquitted

Taylor was arrested about midnight and placed in City Jail until 3:30 p. m. the next day, when he was charged with grand larceny and receiving and concealing stolen property (a pistol).

He was tried before Judge H. B. Abernethy and acquitted. Neither of the officers appeared at his hearing.

3 Seattle Policemen In Drive For Pardons After Killing Negro

SEATTLE, Wash.—(Ellen McGrath for CNA)—On the threshold of the state penitentiary three white Seattle ex-police officers this week intensified a desperate fight to win pardons.

Claiming "new evidence" the three sought pardons on the ground that two of them were blameless and that the third had acted in self-defense in the death of Berry Lawson, 27-year-old waiter.

Police Officers Patrick L. Whalen, F. H. Paschall and W. F. Stevenson, all veteran members of the police department were sentenced to 20 years when they were convicted of manslaughter.

The conviction came after an elaborate fabrication of perjured testimony collapsed before the relentless investigation of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, backed by all progressives here.

Lawson was arrested while asleep in the lobby of the Mt. Fuji Hotel, 115 Yesler Way, in Seattle's skid-road district.

Testimony of an Indian woman arrested at the same time indicated the Negro had walked into the wagon room of the police station and was hauled out a corpse a few minutes later.

Although the jury exonerated the three officers, confessions were later wrung from defense witnesses they had been bribed to perjure themselves in an abortive attempt to whitewash the trio.

A sensational trial last year brought conviction of all three officers, who offered no defense to the damaging testimony of brutality, bribery and perjury uncovered by the prosecuting attorney's office here.

White Cops Freed In Killing Seattle Man

SEATTLE, Wash. — (CNA)— Governor Clarence D. Martin this week had ignored the entire machinery of justice here and granted full pardons to two of the three white ex-police officers convicted of manslaughter for the fatal beating of a Negro prisoner.

W. F. Stevenson and F. H. Pascall were freed before they had served a single day of the 20-years sentences imposed by the Superior Court and upheld by the state Supreme Court early this year.

The remaining member of the trio, Patrick L. Whalen, was denied clemency and ordered to surrender to Sheriff William B. Severyns.

Whalen, who could "take it out" could not take it, and collapsed on receiving the news.

Pardons were granted on the basis of alleged "new evidence," which placed all blame upon Whalen for delivering the fatal blow. But in granting the pardons Governor Martin completely ignored the fact that all three police officers were guilty of bribery and perjury in their abortive attempt to cover up the fact that Berry Lawson, the helpless Negro waiter, had been hammered to death in the wagon room of the police station.

A few hours after the ex-police officers were pardoned, a brazen move was under way to return them to their posts in the police department.

Progressive groups, who were denied a request for an open hearing prior to granting the pardons by Governor Martin, were perparing to resist the return of the two men to uniforms.

Previously, the Seattle Industrial Labor Unions Council, CIO, and the Maritime Federation of the CIO, condemned the move to pardon the convicted police officers. It was pointed out by the unions that pardoning of the officers would serve to encourage police brutality here, which the Wickersham Commission declared to be the most flagrant in the United States.

Hanging, Beating of Boys Charged to Two Policemen

(The Associated Press)

Ocala, Fla., July 6.—Two Dunnellon policemen were accused today of hanging up and beating two negro boys to force a confession in the theft of a watch and a fair of trousers.

Assistant State Attorney James M. Smith said Police Chief Lawton Simms was charged with assault with intent to commit manslaughter and Night Officer Lawton Beal was charged with being an accessory.

Smith said the warrants were sworn out by Constable A. F. Hintze on evidence that the officers severely mistreated K. C. Simpkins, 14 years old, and James Wesley Stout, 16.

Sheriff Gordon Moorhead said the boys claimed they had been jailed without a warrant, and later were taken at night into some woods where ropes were placed around their necks and they were lifted off the ground and beaten.

Moorhead said the negroes were in jail here now under a physician's care, both showing rope wounds around the neck and lacerations and bruises on heads and bodies.

A TOUGH CASE, BUT THEY PUT IT OVER

Orrie Branch, victim of police assault, and Attys. Sidney A. Jones, George Blakey and William Temple (left to right) after the Illinois Appellate court on Monday rendered an opinion upholding a decision by a lower court which granted Branch a $1,200 award in his damage suit against a policeman. Detective Sergeant James Woulfe, of Fifth district, the defendant, was ordered to pay Branch that amount for a fractured jaw the plaintiff sustained when struck by Woulfe in 1936 while being questioned in connection with a hold-up.—Photo by Gushiniere.

New Castle Cops Held In Brutal Negro Beating

(Special to the Sunday Worker)

NEW CASTLE, Pa., July 8.—Three local policemen have been held for the Grand Jury in connection with the brutal, unwarranted attack against Henry Bell, Negro WPA worker.

Squire Arthur Kimmel, of Lakewood, handed down a decision that city police lieutenant Suber and officers Hagen and Tewell be held for the grand jury.

James Keller, attorney for Bell, presented evidence that the police had violated the state law dealing with unreasonable search and seizures. Specific charges of assault and battery were preferred.

ATTACKED IN BED

Bell was attacked two weeks ago, while resting in his bed, by several police who entered and began beating him mercilessly. After 15 minutes, neighbors could hear Bell's cries of agony. He was rushed to the Jameson Memorial Hospital where his wounds were treated.

After a night in jail, he was discharged without a hearing. A Committee for Defense of Negro Rights was formed to protest the brutal attack and the anti-Negro attitude of the local Republican administration.

The Committee is preparing a mass meeting Thursday night at the CIO hall, 35½ East Washington St.

Invited speakers include John Murray, Steel Workers Organizing Committee director; Ben Careathers, Communist state leader; and Homer S. Brown, State Representative.

The formation of the Committee to oppose the anti-Negro bias of the Republican administration follows the formation of a division of Labor's Non-Partisan League in Lawrence County to protect and extend the New Deal

Ask Dismissal Of Officer's Suit In D. C.

Rookie's Service Unsatisfactory Say Police Heads

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Unsatisfactory service in his probationary period was the cause of Joseph O. Curtis, 831 Delaware avenue southwest, being dropped from the police force on June 30, the District Commissioner and Major Ernest W. Brown, superintendent of police assert in their recent answer to his suit for an injunction.

Curtis is seeking a mandatory injunction directing the District Commissioners and Major Brown to continue him on the police force He claims the recommendation for his dismissal was due to racial prejudice actuating Captain Arthur E. Miller of No. 3 precinct, who was his commanding officer.

The answer of the Commissioners and Major Brown filed last Friday, gives a different version. A report on his service, made by Captain Miller to Major Brown, shows that Curtis in the year he was on the police force was reported twice for neglect of duty, missing a box and being in a building for 45 minutes.

REPORT

At the request of Major Brown, Captain Miller on May 25 submitted a report to the superintendent of police on the character of service Curtis had rendered. In a letter forwarded to Major Brown i connection with the report Captai Miller itemized several instances alleged neglect of duty and carelessness in carrying out h work.

Upon the recommendation Curtis's commanding officer, M jor Brown recommended that he dropped from the police force the end of his probationary pe od on June 30. The District Co missioners approved his reco mendation.

Curtis was appointed a memb of the police force on July 1, 193 to serve a year on probation. H was assigned to No. 3 precin under the command of Captai Miller.

The District Commissioners an Major Brown, represented by Co poration Counsel Elwood H. Sea Principal Assistant Corporatio Counsel Vernon E. West, and Assistant Corporation James W. Lauderdale, ask the dismissal of Curtis's suit on the ground that his complaint fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted.

Action Called Unprecedented In Birmingham

Accused Publicly Reprimanded By Board

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Officer Claude Williams, of the Ensley police force was found guilty of conduct unbecoming an officer, placed on probation for one year, and given a public reprimand by the Civil Service Board after he had been examined on charges of beating up Will Hall, a colored resident of Ensley, suburb of this city.

This action against a policeman on such a charge is unprecedented in this city. The complaint was filed and pressed by Arthur D. Shores, an attorney here on the legal committee of the Birmingham NAACP.

The opinion of the Civil Service Board served notice to police that they "must not attempt to administer punishment to law violators, such persons should be placed under arrest and their punishment determined by the courts."

Immediately after the decision, as Attorney Shores was being congratulated by admiring citizens, he was attacked by a person described as a "Negro stool pigeon for police." Citizens surrounding Mr. Shores came to his defense and gave his attacker a severe beating.

Several arrests were made, including that of Shores, but he was freed on any charge, while his chief defender paid a five-dollar fine and his attacker paid one of ten dollars.

Accuse Memphis Police of Slaying

MEMPHIS, (ANP)—Police officials here, headed by Commissioner Davis, Chief of Police Lee, acted quickly last week when their investigation disclosed that two young policemen, while allegedly drunk, had shot and killed an innocent colored man whom they attacked while he was in the kitchen of his home cooking breakfast.

The two policemen—Elmer F. Broens and R. G. McElroy (both white)—were immediately dismissed, stripped of their badges and guns, and later, following arrangement before City Judge Bateman were ordered held to the Grand Jury on a charge of murder.

Memphis Negro Didn't Have A Chance As Coppers Shot Him To Death

By R. C. D. Tieuel, Jr.

Staff Reporter

Memphis, Tenn. — I wanted to get the truth of the whole matter about the slaying of Phillip Hadley, 42-year old American War Veteran, by former officers Roy G. M'Elroy and Elmer F. Broens (they have been expelled by Police Commissioner Davis and I have learned authoritatively, they are Italians or foreigners), so when Mother Nature had closed a blanket of dusk over God's great earth, I started to where Phillip Hadley had once lived as a quiet, respectable citizen, with his young wife of only 24 years, happily married for nine years to her, and his three small brilliant children, who were too young to do anything but cry as they watched the above-named men 'beat, kick and jogg that pistol in my daddy's mouth.'

I talked to Eugene, about five years old; Robert, who is about nine years old, and little Alma, about the same age. I believe these are the names for I didn't write them down as I didn't want them to think I was an investigator or reporter, but just a friend. They played on my lap and asked me for money to buy candy. I gave it to them. They asked me my name. I told them. I asked the children their names. They gave it to me as children whose parents were interested in them even though they were of mediocre circumstances.

Then the children told me how they peeped through the window and doors watching the policemen "beat, kick and jogged a pistol in my daddy's mouth."

"What was Daddy doing while they were doing this to him?" I inquired.

"He was crying," the replied directly.

They were all sitting in one room with the heater in it when I arrived and knocked on the door of the unpretentious three or four-room house. When I asked the lovely widow if the city had helped them, she replied "No." The city should come to the rescue. It is directly responsible for the present plight of this lovely family.

Police Cruelty Suit Dismissed

Prosecution Is Asked For Killer Police

WASHINGTON, D. C.— A lily-white jury returned a verdict in the United States District Court before Justice Peyton Gordon last week in favor of George Reid, a white policeman, who was sued for damages of $10,000 in one of several police brutality cases and whippings which stirred the District of Columbia.

Mrs. Jessie Steerling, 59, brought the suit charging that the officer had beaten her twice without provocation, first at her home and later at No. 4 precinct.

She was treated at Freedmen's Hospital and confined under the care of a physician.

DEFENSE CLAIMS

Reid's defense was that the woman was in front of her home cursing and he used only such force as was necessary to put her under arrest.

He denied that he had struck her. He claimed that when she was being taken into the station house she broke away from him and fell down the steps sustaining injuries.

Three colored persons were called for jury duty, but were challenged by defense counsel, leaving an all-white jury to decide the case.

The verdict of the jury ended a fight to obtain redress which was marked at every step by failure. Mrs. Steerling was found guilty of disorderly conduct in Police Court. Her charges against Reid, presented to the grand jury were ignored.

Mrs. Steerling's counsel contended that the alleged assault was without provocation and that her face and arms are permanently disfigured and her left eye permanently injured.

DETROIT, Mich., Feb. 10—(UNP)—The inquest into the slaying of Jesse James on December 30 came to a dramatic close last Friday as the coroner's jury which included Fred Allen, Hugh Peterson Jr., and Charles Cole issued the following statement:

"Jesse James came to his death caused by Bert Baker, of Detroit, reporting a 1937 Ford tudor sedan, license U-42004 to Detroit police as stolen, but through evidence it shows that Jesse James was an honest and a good citizen.

"While we do not believe that there was criminal intent on the part of Officer Cichy, the said officer was careless in the use of fire-arms in the performance of his duty."

Immediately following the decision of the jury it was reported that several civic bodies including the N.A.A.C.P. would attempt to bring Patrolman Cichy before the police trial board on charges of carelessness in the use of fire-arms.

Joseph Gilliard, Hi School Youth, Dies in Hospital

Push Probe of Fatal Shooting by White Radio Patrolman

PHILADELPDIA—An investigation into the fatal shooting of Joseph Gilliard, 17, high school athlete, of 207 Spring Garden Street, by a radio car policeman on Saturday, was launched by agents of the coroner's office Tuesday.

Gilliard, a high school track star and member of a club basketball team, died last Sunday in the Hahnemann Hospital from wounds of the intestines and lungs. Another youth, Frank Johnson, 16, of 458 N. Ninth Street, was arrested on charges of attempted larceny and held as a material witness in Gilliard's death.

Police reported that the two high school pupils on Saturday were attempting to loot autos on a parking lot at Tenth and Cherry Streets. They were surprised at the lot, it was stated, by Patrolman George Fosler and Peter Hammond, both white, of the Eleventh and Winter Street station.

Pair Run from Cops

Seeing the officers, the two fled before the officers could apprehend them. Following in the police radio cruiser, Patrolman Hammond fired several shots at the fleeing pair. The two ran east on Cherry Street to Ridge Avenue with the patrolmen following in their car, firing several shots. Gilliard was wounded a few seconds after he turned north on Ridge Avenue. His companion escaped.

The officer reported that he fired at the ground and that one of the bullets hit the pavement, ricocheted and pierced Gilliard's back.

Fell to Sidewalk

Gilliard fell to the sidewalk at Ridge Avenue and Spring Street, mortally wounded. He was taken to Hahnemann Hospital where he died the following day.

Johnson was arrested at his home after police allegedly ascertained his identity from Gilliard.

Deputy Coroner E. Murphy will head the investigation.

Woman Loses $10,000 Suit Against Officer

WASHINGTON

An all-white jury of nine men and three women, dismissed a suit, Wednesday, for $10,000 damages filed by Mrs. Jessie Sterling, 60, of 307 Virginia Avenue, Southwest, in the District court against a Fourth Precinct policeman whom she accused of brutally assaulting her four years ago.

The jury, after deliberating for nearly two hours, found that Mrs. Sterling was not justified in her claim for compensation growing out of a beating she charged was given her by G. B. Reid, white, squad car patrolman, in the early morning of July 4, 1935.

She produced evidence she had hoped would substantiate her assertion that the officer was responsible for a blackened eye, a broken arm, and other injuries she suffered on the occasion of her arrest for disorderly conduct.

Resisted Arrest, Charge

Officer Reid, his partner, D. H. Mayo, and several policemen attached to the Fourth Precinct, appeared as witnesses for the defense. All held that the woman's injuries were the result of her own actions in resisting arrest.

Mrs. Sterling told the court that she was attacked by the policemen when they came upon her calling for someone to help her after she awoke in the middle of the night and discovered gas escaping from a defective pipe directly over her bed.

Battered Victim, 24, Under Bond

Claims Officers Tried to "Pin" Charge on Him

By EULUS L. NANCE

Twenty-four-year old Spencer Stewart, son of Mr. and Mrs. Leston Stewart, 259 Houston St., N. E., was a pathetic figure as he appeared at the WORLD Tuesday afternoon, his head slightly swollen and gauze bandage and adhesive tape plastered conspicuously about his face. His was indeed a pitiful tale.

According to the youth, three detectives had arrested a colored boy who was in their car parked in front of the rear 262 Houston St., N.E., around three o'clock Saturday afternoon and, when he asked the fellow why they had him, the plainsclothesmen "got mad and started beating me over the head with blackjacks and the butts of their pistols; one socked me with a brick." Stewart said the men handcuffed him before they "pinned it on me."

RETURNING FROM WORK

Questioned as to how he happened to be on the scene, Stewart told a reporter that he had just returned from work.

After they had beaten him up, Stewart stated, the detectives proceeded to take him to the stationhouse to. On the way, however, he said that, at the point of a pistol, they tried to make him take into his hand a knife they had wrapped up in a handkerchief. "I told them they would simply have to kill me," the youth related, "because I realized they were trying to fix it so it would look like I had threatened them with the weapon."

TRIED AND BOUND OVER

Instead of shooting him as they threatened to do if he didn't take the knife, Stewart went on, they carried him on down and had him held on charges of drunken and disorderly conduct and of assault and battery.

Tried in Recorder's court Monday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock, Stewart said he was bound over on a $200 bond. He said his bond had been posted by a former employer, W. C. Tinker, white, of 1166 Crumley Road, who will take responsibility for his legal defense. Meanwhile, Stewart said he was out lining out witnesses to the fact that he did nothing whatever to cause the officers to beat him up violently with blackjacks, pistols and a brick.

Macon, Ga. Telegraph
March 19, 1939

NEGROS' REACTION ON SCOTT DECISION

To the Editor of The Telegraph and News:

The citizens' committee, organized for the defense of Sarah Scott, and also representing the 23,000 Negroes in Macon, wishes to express publicly through The Telegraph the reaction which the police court decision, in the Scott case has had on the committee.

Although in the minority, the Negroes of Macon feel that they are as much a part of Macon as those who are in a majority; therefore the Negroes feel that they are entitled to as decent treatment and protection from the police department as any other group of citizens. We feel and we know, that being Negroes, is no reason why justice should not be as even-handed with us as it is with those who have been accepted as a superior race. One great way to prove superiority is to see that those who are considered inferior, receive fairness and justice, to see that the superior takes no advantage of the inferior. That is a real test of superiority.

Knowing that children, especially Negro children, have always carried in their hearts a fear for police officers, we cannot agree with others, that Sarah Scott, a colored girl 16 years old and weighing only 108 pounds, would jump at the face of a police officer, whose weight is perhaps 165 pounds, and who was armed with a revolver and a black jack, and strike that officer in the face, and kick and curse the officer and court, simply because the officer requested her to remove her skates. We cannot agree with others that the officer was driven to use brutal force, if Sarah Scott did strike, to protect his own life. We cannot agree with others that the final outcome would have been the same had the colors of the skin been reversed. If it were necessary to us brute force to arrest a child weighing 108 pounds, we shudder when we think what will happen when the officer is called upon to arrest a man who is his equal in weight and strength.

We fear that the morale of the Negroes of Macon has received a terrible shock; that morale which the saner thinking white and colored citizens of Macon have worked so hard for years to strengthen; that morale which has caused many Negroes in Macon to enter whole-heartedly into Community Chest and Red Cross drives, police benefit affairs, and purchasing tickets to benefit dinners when they knew they would never be able to attend.

The outcome of the Scott case has placed a tremendous responsibility upon the shoulders of a few colored people. And that responsibility is to again lead Negroes of Macon into believing that the white citizens are the "only real friends to the Negro" as the white man has claimed to be since slavery. We might tell ourselves it is true, but the burden of proof rests with the white man, as actions speak louder than words.

Macon. FRANK J. HUTCHINGS.

NAACP Investigates Police Brutality

Atlanta World
Atlanta Daily

The launching of an investigation of the reported beating of innocent persons during the police raid of a Fort street hall Sunday night by the Atlanta branch of the N. A. A. C. P., and the facts and circumstances surrounding the classification of "dives" should receive the plaudits of every interested colored Atlantan.

Recently police have arrested scores of persons in different businesses in the Auburn avenue area on charges of "occupying a dive." In practically all the cases fines have been assessed. Sunday night seventyfour were hauled down from a Fort street hall. Fines aggregating $982 were imposed. Only about a third of the victims were able to raise their fines which averaged $12 or 20 days each in the stockade.

But what is most unfortunate about the Sunday night raid several persons reported to the Atlanta N. A. A. C. P. in a special meeting Monday night that they fell victims of police brutality simply "because they happened to be in the section of the raid." Two young men reported officers beat them at the point of guns and yet made no charges against them nor were they arrested.

While the World is never given to upholding the operation of any business which would come under the classification of a "low resort," or "dive," it can never give sanction to wholesale arrests of persons who happen to be in the vicinity of them when police decide to swoop down, or to endless beatings of those who happen to pass through the areas where the raids are in progress.

It would seem that if the police authorities are aware of or find out that an establishment is being operated as a "dive," they would proceed to close it or prevent the owners from getting proper licenses and other credentials, rather than continue to make periodic raids and wholesalely arrest innocent persons who happen to be in at the time.

If it can be proved that policemen needlessly and without cause beat innocent persons Sunday night, the N. A. A. C. P. is justified in proceeding against the accused.

Charleston, S. C. News & Courier
January 17, 1939

Clemency and Crime

Last Friday the retiring governor, Mr. Olin D. Johnston, lawyer, of Spartanburg, paroled thirteen convicted felons from the state penitentiary. Five of the thirteen had been convicted of capital crimes and sentenced for life. In the aggregate the five had served forty-five years, for the crime of murder, an average of less than nine years.

The other eight had been sentenced to serve an aggregate of eighty-three years, and their crimes were burglary, burglary and larceny, manslaughter, two, (that costs another man his life) and housebreaking, larceny and arson. One had been convicted of rape, the crime for which lynching too often has been excused in South Carolina, and he had served five of his fifteen years sentence. The eight had served in the aggregate thirty-three years.

Last Saturday Governor Johnston released from the penitentiary or commuted the sentences of four persons who had been convicted of manslaughter and their aggregate sentences were sixty years, of which they had in the aggregate served five. Also on that day he paroled or commuted the life sentences of three persons convicted of murder, so that they will have served upon release no more than seventeen years in the aggregate.

One would not hold Governor Johnston answerable for the laxity of law enforcement in South Carolina of which about 240 or 250 annual man-killings are the evidence. That is the result of a long succession of failure of juries to do their duty with a succession of governors, of whom Mr. Johnston is but one, encouraging persons of criminal bent to believe that crime will not bring upon them the penalties prescribed by law.

A man having in his heart to do murder may infer from the record of Governor Johnston in the last fortnight of his term that a "life sentence" means eight or nine years.

Would Governor Johnston be pleased to have his administration of the executive office measured by a comparison of the reports of the attorney general and solicitors for the four years with the records of his pardons and paroles?

He has spoken well of his administration. It has been highly commendable, if one is to accept the estimate that he has publicly placed upon it.

The charitably disposed South Carolinians are saying that the lavish extensions of clemency by the governor in the closing days of his term are motivated by a generous and greatly merciful heart. Not all the people are charitable.

Governor Johnston should ask for a legislative investigation. It should be ordered whether he shall ask for it or not.

Section Twelve, of Article IV of the constitution of South Carolina, prescribing the governor's duties, reads:

"He shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed in mercy".

If by his pardons and paroles in the last four months of his term Governor Johnston was "executing the laws faithfully in mercy", are his defenders prepared to say that in the earlier years of his term, when he granted comparatively few pardons and paroles, he was executing the laws "faithfully and in mercy"?

Charleston, S. C. News & Courier
March 11, 1939

Better Think On This

Since the first day of January this year to March 10 have been in Charleston county seven homicides. All of the victims and six of the slayers have been negroes. In one case a white watchman killed a negro who was attempting to rob, and the verdict of the coroner's jury was justifiable homicide.

Four of the seven homicides were outside of the city of Charleston. The county has a negro population of a little more than 54,000, of whom 28,000 live in the city. The white inhabitants are more than 46,000, of whom 34,000 are city dwellers.

As many negroes have been killed by negroes in Charleston county this year in two months and nine days as were lynched in the United States last year.

Were homicides to which only negroes were parties to continue at the same rate in Charleston county for the remainder of the year, the number of victims would be about twenty-seven or twenty-eight, nearly five times the number of victims of all lynchings in 1938.

To Walter White, secretary of the society for the Advancement of the Colored People, Senator "Bob" Wagner, Senator Van Nuys, Senator Barbour, Senator Guffey, Chairman James Farley, Representative Arthur Mitchell (negro), and the Democratic party which Senator Byrnes says the negroes control, the foregoing facts are referred.

Investigation will further disclose that in the South fights and killings in which whites and negroes are involved have come to be rare occurrences. The "negro problem" in the South, so far as homicide is considered, is not lynching but the slaughter of negroes by negroes.

What would the Northern champions and guardians of the negroes have the South to do? Would they have the white juries to send more negroes to the electric chair? Electrocutions of negroes are rare in South Carolina, as they are of white men.

The lack of attention of these Northern politicians to negro homicides in the South and their emphasis in congress on lynching justify the conclusion that they are concerned with the control of the Northern negro vote in the cities rather than with the condition of the Southern negroes.

Greenville, S. C. News
June 16, 1939

SALESMAN HELD UP AND ROBBED BY NEGRO TRIO

Ben Ford Gets Warrant Charging One Negro Man With Highway Robbery

KNIFE THREAT USED

Employing a ruse, three negro men got Ben Ford, white salesman, in a house on Hampton alley Wednesday night, threatened him with a knife and took $3 in cash from him before he escaped, he reported yesterday.

Ford signed a warrant before Magistrate Louie E. Smith charging Oliver Howard, negro, with highway robbery.

The man said a negro asked him to go to the negro house with him so that he could see some samples of Ford's dry goods line. Arriving at the house, Ford said, the negro asked him to wait in the front room while he went for his wife.

The negro and two other negro men returned, he said, and one had a knife. They demanded his money, the one with the knife whacked at him one time, he said, before he dropped $3 on the floor and ran.

He called city officers and recovered his sample case later, he said, but the three negro men had gone.

Batesburg, S. C., Twin-City News
August 23, 1939

NEWBERRY NEGRO PAYS $11 FINE WITH $100 BILL

Newberry, Aug. 17.—Imagine the amazement and bewilderment of city policemen and city officials today when a young negro upon being fined $11 dollars in recorder's court for disturbing the peace at a negro gathering reached in his hip pocket and produced his wallet from which he tendered with apologies a $100 bill saying that it was the smallest bill he had. Chief of Police Cole L. Dowd said the negro's pocketbook was crammed full of bills.

After it was all over and settlement was made, the offender's father said, "Son, take my advice and stay out of trouble and save your money for a rainy day."

Anderson, S. C., Independent Trib
September 16, 1939

GLENN TO DIRECT ALL PENAL WORK

Superintndent Of Penitentiary Named By Board As Supervising Director Of All Institutions Under His Authority.

COLUMBIA, Sept. 15 —(AP)—The state board of penal directors today named John M. Glenn, superintendent of the penitentiary, as supervising director of all the institutions under its authority.

The industrial school for boys at Florence, the industrial school for girls, the industrial school for negroes and the woman's penitentiary in this county, as well as the penitentiary, are the institutions affected. Each one will continue under its own head but Glenn will generally supervise the work.

Dr. A. H. Hayden, Jr., of Columbia, was reelected dentist for the penitentiary and Dr. Charles Lide of Columbia was elected physician for the negro industrial school to succeed Dr. Charles G. Spivey of Columbia.

Bids for leasing the penitentiary's garment factory were rejected because they were considered too low, Dr. Frank Owens, vice chairman of the board, said. The factory will continue to be operated as at present, he added.

Authorization was granted for the installation of a hot water system at the state prison farm near Boykin, in Kershaw county.

Mullings, S. C., Enterprise
October 3, 1939

Negro Farmer Fleeced

Sumter, Sept. 29—Sumter police today were searching for two negroes described as "slickers" who successfully worked the "pocketbook game" on Nelson English, fifty-year-old negro, who lixes six miles from town on the Radical road and relieved him of $152.

English was accosted in a back lot by the two strangers, police said, after he had sold two bales of cotton. The money he had was insufficient to meet his part of the bargain in the pocketbook switch, so he went home, got another bale and sold that, too.

After he had obtained sufficient money he turned it over to the strangers who told him to wait at the cotton platform for them. The strangers went away and when they did not return as soon as English thought they should he appealed to police.

Police said the racket had been worked here twice recently and from the description they have of English's swindlers, they are the same men who victimized two other Sumter negroes.

"Please Mr. Governor, Please Don't Send Me Back To South Carolina," Pleads War Veteran Now Under Arrest In Cleveland

By CHARLES H. LOEB

CLEVELAND, Ohio—(A N P)—In a cell at Clevelands' Central police station, a rapidly aging brown-skinned Negro man engages in silent, but fervent prayer that Ohio's Governor John W. Bricker will refuse to sign extradition papers that will turn him over to Hampton County, South Carolina authorities, to face trial and perhaps a mob—in connection with the shooting of a white man there nearly 14 years ago.

The plainly frightened Negro Benjamin Haywood, an ex-soldier, who until his arrest by Cleveland detectives a few days ago, had operated a profitable barbecue stand in Akron under an assumed name, tells a story almost unbelievable, of Dixie justice, a review of which is expected to persuade the governor to refuse to send him back to almost certain death.

Haywood's story, told in simple and truthful manner, is this:

Mack in 1925, Haywod lived in Beaufort county, South Carolina. He was a free-lance contractor of sorts. A white man named Robinson hired him to do some repairing on state roads. He completed one job and received payment for it Robinson gave him another job, but this time refused to pay him, stating, "the first money is enough for both jobs for a 'N....r.'" The two men clashed, with the white man coming off second best.

Then, Robinson relates, he hid himself in a railroad box in the adjoining county of Hampton for 12 hours, and then returned to his wife and two children at Beaufort.

About a week later, on January 5, 1925, three or four white men including Robinson, came to his home armed with clubs and guns, backed up by a mob of whites on a nearby state road. The four began to shoot into Haywoods' home, then burned the house to the ground. Haywood and his brother managed to escape, returning the fire of the mob as they ran away from the scene. Evidently one of the mobsters was killed, for South Carolina wants Haywood for murder.

Haywood tells an almost incredible story of how he and his brother lived in a nearby swamp throughout the frigid months of January, February, March and April, subsisting on small game, roots and potatoes they managed to steal in frequent forays on nearby farms.

When they made their break for freedon up north, they rubbed the soles of their feet with red pepper to throw off any bloodhounds that might be used to trail them swimming various creeks and rivers in their routs to freedom.

Finally arriving at Akron, on a freight train, the two brothers lived in the Rubber city for ten years and during the past four years in Pittsburgh where Haywood lost trace of his brother. Returning to Akron where he lived, Haywood three weeks ago, decided to make a bold attempt to secure his soldier's bonus. Certain necessary papers were in the possession of his wife in South Carolina. He took a long chance and wrote her for them. The wife demanded that all the bonus money, if secured, be turned over to her on the threat of "telling the white folks" where they might locate him. Haywood refused....Mrs. Haywood told the "white folks."

The case attracted the attention of Atty. Chester K. Gillespie, who although the fugitive was without funds, intervened in his behalf. On Monday Atty. Gillespie wired the governor, calling his attention to the case, and asking that he refuse to sign extradition papers. Governor Bricker's reply by telegram Tuesday stated that he would consider the case whenever it was called up for hearing before him, meanwhile his office will make a thorough investigation of the case.

Judge Lillian Westrop before whom Haywood was arraigned in Cleveland, set the hearing of his case back to October 27.

"Please Mr. Governor," pleads Haywood from his cell, "please don't send me back to South Carolina."

Gaffney, S. C. Ledger
November 4, 1939

Negro School Boy Had Seven Keys To Mail Boxes

John Iley Graham, young negro arrested at the postoffice here Wednesday for tampering with the mails, had in his possession a total of seven keys to seven different mail boxes, it was stated yesterday by Postmaster John C. Fowler.

This fact was discovered Thursday when a postoffice inspector and Mr. Fowler questioned Graham in the county jail, where he is being held under a federal warrant.

Graham, who was a tenth grade pupil in the Granard Street school was trapped Wednesday morning as he opened a mail box. He denied having keys to any other boxes at the time, but Mr. Fowler said persistent questioning finally caused him to produce half a dozen more from the pockets of his clothes.

The mail box keys were loose except one which was still on a ring with a number of other keys belonging to the owner. Graham told the officials he had thrown away all other keys which were on rings.

The negro apparently had been making a practice of loitering in the postoffice lobby and taking any keys which thoughtless persons forgot to remove from their boxes when leaving. One of the keys was taken while the owner was still in the lobby, it was stated, the man having just turned his back for a few minutes to look over the mail he had taken from the box.

Postmaster Fowler said a federal warrant had been issued for Graham. The negro was known to have secured at least one money order and several checks from the rifled mail, but it was not believed he had been able to cash any of these.

In the case of the money order he had written a letter to the sender saying difficulty was experienced in getting it cashed and asked that another one be sent made payable to "Cash." This letter was found in one of his school books, Mr. Fowler said.

Postmaster Fowler said he wished to issue a general warniing against tampering with any mail boxes, whether in the postoffice or outside. The same laws apply to the boxes on rural routes and to collection boxes in the city, he stated, and anyone bothering these boxes in any way will be subject to prosecution.

Sometimes children or pranksters have shot firecrackers, poured mud or other material into the large city collection boxes, Mr. Fowler said. He warned anyone tampering with mail boxes anywhere in any manner will be violating the postal laws and will be subject to prosecution in federal courts.

As To "Disarming The Blacks"

In its issue of Friday, August 11, THE NASHVILLE TIMES, continuing to give the present generation choice samples of "South Before the War" journalism, emblazons its first page with another one of its exclusive stories dealing with knife-carrying in Nashville. What this newspaper, now under "Northern management," dished out on this particular occasion deserves to be quoted and given wider circulation among those Nashville citizens which this newspaper appears to have picked out to "pick on."

A headline says: "WOMAN KNIFED BY NEGRO MAN ON 4TH AVENUE."

The sub-head says: "POLICE CONTINUE DRIVE TO DISARM BLACKS AFTER SERIES OF CUTTINGS, ONE OF WHICH RESULTED IN DEATH."

Excerpts from the news story which followed are as follows:

"City police moved today to disarm Negroes of knives carried open-handedly with the intention of stabbing persons with whom they might become entangled in an argument.

"Radio Patrol Sergeant John Milliron, with Patrolman Ivie Steele, said that an unidentified Negro girl, who accompanied the wounded girl to the hospital had a knife in her purse with a three and a half inch blade. Milliron said he took the knife and broke the blade out of it.

"No charge had been placed against the knife-carrying Negro woman at noon in connection with carrying the knife.

"Nine out of every ten Negro men and women carry knives,' "Milliron declared," 'and we are going to do our best to stop it.'

"Chief of Police Lon Foster said, 'I think Judge Smith will cooperate with us and we will cooperate with him in the court in stopping this knife-carrying by Negroes.'

"Both Chief Foster and Chief of Detectives Elkin Lewis said this morning that they had instructed their men to bring Negroes found carrying knives into the station to be locked up."

Now, with every desire for seeing Nashville's awful crime record reduced, a desire which we have been expressing long before the recent happening in South Nashville, which apparently, is the sole inspiration for the hysterical crusade against "Negroes only," as launched by the Nashville Times, our deliberate conclusion is that the kind of publicity in which the "Times" is engaged is wicked and wholly unworthy of any conservative newspaper.

Most modern newspapers are getting away from the old habit of playing up the race of an individual charged with a crime. They do this to save the race to which the individual belongs of the ignominy of that individual's crime. Playink up in a newspaper headline the race of an individual criminal usually is done to stir up public hatred against a race, to the neglect of emphasizing the crime that has been committed. Whether deliberately or otherwise, the Nashville Times, in its series of newspaper articles, is engaged in an effort that does violence to the progress in better race relations in Nashville and in the South. Whatever of financial profit the "Times" gains by its efforts is poor recompense indeed for the harm its "circulation project" does.

"Nine out of ten Negro men and women in Nashville carry knives," the "Times" quotes a police officer as saying. That is a wild and irresponsible statement which no fair minded person will believe nor believe the officer had any justification in making, inasmuch as he never has looked into the pockets of all the Negro men and women of Nashville. The statement is ridiculous, to say the least.

The newspaper quotes Chief of Police J. Lon Foster as saying, "I think Judge Smith will cooperate with us and we will cooperate with him in the court in stopping this knife-carrying by Negroes."

That sounds like some of the propaganda that was used against Judge Guild Smith before the recent city election. The implication of it is that knife carrying has been persistent among Negroes because Judge Smith has not "cooperated."

It possibly would be a good thing if there was a total disarmament of those who carry knives in Nashville. But it would appear to be the first duty of the law to dispossess all the stores in this city of pocket knives and especially of any knives that the law says individuals can not possess. As long as knives are sold, it is a certainty they will be bought.

In addition, the crusade for dispossessing Nashville citizens of their knives should proceed without regard to the race to which these citizens belong. We have full knowledge of the fact that officers of the law often proceed against Negroes with reckless abandon, molest and even arrest them for crimes or on suspicion and wholly ignore molesting white people or members of other minority groups guilty of the same things for which Negroes are rounded up.

All that is said in the "Times," in the article here referred to, appears to be aimed at arousing the officers of the law to the need of conducting a drive exclusively against Negroes. Disarming the "blacks" as the Times calls us, can very likely proceed with impunity. But before this thing of disarming all of the "blacks" gets under way, it would be well to take into consideration the fact (or, rather, fiction) that "nine out of every ten Negro men and women carry knives" and that is a "whale of a job" for officers to tackle at this particular time when they have so many major crimes on their "unsolved program." Disarmament, it would seem, should confine itself to just those individuals who, in the proper and legal way, have been apprehended as possessors of knives of an illegal size. It would even appear proper to bring the knife taken off a person into court and let the judge pass upon whether or not it was of illegal size. Breaking off the blade of a knife on the spot of disarmament, could cause skeptics to doubt that the officer was accurate in his measurement. Didn't we hear that an officer said "nine out of ten Negroes carry knives," which is very "inaccurate?" Didn't an officer a few weeks ago positively assure us that 42 per cent of Nashville's population is Negro, when it is only 28 per cent?

In making our special plea for a fair deal for the Negro citizens of Nashville, in advance of the "drive to disarm the blacks," as the "Times" calls us, we are not unmindful of the fact that we have a number of white friends who are owners of pocket knives. If any of same are caught in the dragnet, we point with pride to the fact that they are assured of escape from any unfair trespass upon their citizenship rights. That escape is contained in the Constitution of the United States and in the Bill of Rights thereof. Specifically, it is as follows:

"The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures shall not be violated and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath of affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized."

Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily Times
November 1, 1939

LENDING FIRM SUED BY NEGRO TEACHER

City Discount Charged With Taking Usurious Rates—Return of Excess Asked

Alberta White, Negro city school teacher, filed suit in chancery court yesterday against City Discount company and its manager, John Paul Wheeler, accusing the company of lending money at a usurious rate of interest and seeking to recover interest payments made by her during the past two years in excess of the legal rate.

The bill alleged that the teacher obtained several $50 loans during the two-year period. The loans were to run for thirty days each and she charged that instead of giving her $50, the face value of the note, the company gave her $42.50 and kept the remaining $7.50 as interest for a period of thirty days. On one such note which she said she renewed every thirty days, she claimed to have paid out $75 in interest charges over a period of seventeen months without paying anything on the principal.

Wheeler was indicted last July for violating the small loan act by charging interest in excess of the legal rate, but he has not yet been tried.

The legal rate of interest which may be charged by small loan companies is approximately 18 per cent. per annum, figured on the basis of 6 per cent. per year on the principal and 1½ per cent. per month on the unpaid remainder.

The suit was filed in chancery court by Attorney Walter Wood, court officer in Judge Charles W. Lusk's division of criminal court. Wood also charged that the company had not obtained a small loan company's license from the county court clerk's office and had not posted bond with the state superintendent of banking and insurance. Wood said the company was operating on a Morris plan license and asserted that under such license, it could not legally charge more than 10 per cent. per annum.

The suit averred that the petitioner, Alberta White, did not know how many loans she had made and did not have any record of all interest payments which she had made. The bill asked the chancellor to require the loan company to file its records in court so the exact amount of interest which she had paid might be determined.

THE DRIVE ON CRIME

Nashville's officials who appear determined to remove from this city the stigma of being one of the worst cities for crime in the United States deserve the support and cooperation of every citizen who is ashamed of this terrible record. The fact that officials, newspapers and all law-abiding people have become interested in the city's crime record, encourages the belief that crime of all kinds will shortly show a decrease and criminals will not find Nashville as happy a hunting ground for their fraternity as it has been in the past.

It has always depressed us to know that Nashville's leadership in murders has been made possible by the persistence of Negroes in murdering other Negroes. We have been equally depressed to note the leniency with which the element that engages in murdering on the nearest pretext has been dealt with by the law. We have been sure, despite the skepticism of law officers, that the murder record chalked up by Negroes can be reduced if and when law officers and the general public decide that regardless of the race of killers or those who are killed, such crimes reflect upon the name of a city which we are anxious for the world to know as one of the nation's greatest religious and educational centers.

We have contended that the great philanthropists whose astounding sums of money have helped build great educational institutions here and the thousands of patrons of our religious publishing houses have a reason to be surprised that a city so favored and blessed can continually show a crime record much worse than cities that are not religious and educational centers.

We doubt that we can either reassure those who look upon us from afar or satisfy our own consciences by referring to records which show that the students in our schools and the workers in our religious plants are not among the criminal elements of our city.

This city has an obligation of showing to the world that the community where fountains of education and religion are placed can prove their worth in the character of the people who live in the community. We have believed that if the newspapers of Nashville exerted their undoubted power for good in an effort to reduce the awful crime record of Nashville they would receive the same kind of response from the people that was given when the press of this city a few years ago waged war on election corruption here and put voting machines in operation.

It is gratifying to note that the press seems to have enlisted in the war to reduce crime in this city. It is gratifying to note that officers of the law have also enlisted in this timely crusade. If the press keeps hammering away at getting rid of crime and demands that no partiality be shown in the matter of rounding up law-breakers we are confident that splendid results will follow. We are supremely confident that officers of the law will be just as active and alert in uprooting crime and rounding up criminals as the public demands. Officers, we are sure, will respect a fair and disinterested press as being the "voice of the people."

We trust officers of the law will be persistent in warning the criminal element here that the killing of human beings is injuring the good name of Nashville all over the United States and a determined effort is going to be made to make murdering less popular than it has been in the past. We trust courts and juries, after granting to every accused person his full constitutional rights, will meet out punishment on the basis of the crime that has been committed against society and without respect to "old traditions."

We are confident that those in authority in Nashville are neglecting to take an important step in reducing crime here by the persistent failure to employ colored police officers. Do not the records show that the murder record in no city with Negro police officers is as high as it is in Nashville? Is it not a fact that Negro police officers are employed in several cities even farther South than Nashville? We are sure that our city officials do not mean to contend that capable Negroes can not be found for police duty in Nashville just as they have been found in such cities as Louisville, Knoxville and Houston, Texas.

The determination to remove from the name of Nashville the disgrace of being the crime capital of the nation should be so sincere as to make all of us anxious and willing to employ every means and device necessary to bring the desired results in the shortest time possible.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily Times
December 14, 1939

NEGRO CONVICTED IN LYE THROWING

Wallace Given 10 Years for Robbery in Which Victim Lost Eye and Clothing

A Negro who allegedly threw lye into the face and eyes of a white man and robbed him near the Western & Atlantic railroad crossing on Market street was convicted by a jury in Judge L. D. Miller's division of criminal court yesterday and sentenced to serve not more than ten years in the penitentiary.

Perry Bragg, a hosiery mill mechanic, was the victim of the lye-throwing attack and Walter Wallace, an ex-convict, is the Negro convicted of the robbery. Bragg's face was burned by the lye and one eye was burned so badly it had to be removed. The sight of the other eye is seriously impaired.

Bragg Lost Cash, Clothing

The robbery was committed on May 11. Bragg was robbed of practically all his clothes, his mechanic's tool and a small amount of cash. The crime might have gone unpunished had it not been for the conscience of another Negro being held at the county jail last October on a charge of petit larceny. City detectives had been unable to find any clues on the robbery until Johnny Sanders, Negro ex-convict, suffered an attack of remorse while at the county jail and voluntarily confessed that he and Wallace had attacked and robbed Bragg. He testified yesterday against Wallace and said the other Negro threw the lye.

"One night I laid down in my cell at the county jail and prayed to the Lord to change my soul," he testified. "I hadn't said anything about this before because I was wicked, but I knew I couldn't keep quiet about it if I was I couldn't keep quiet about it if I was going to be a Christian."

After praying about the matter, he testified he called the jailer and told him that he and Wallace had committed the crime. The jailer informed Chief Deputy Sheriff Claud Brown and Brown in turn called City Detective E. E. Smith. After questioning Sanders, Smith began a search for Wallace and subsequently found him at the city workhouse where he was confined for fighting with his wife.

Smith questioned Wallace about the robbery and the Negro first denied it. Bragg was then brought to police headquarters and after a doctor had dilated the pupil of his remaining eye he identified both Sanders and Wallace. Bragg said the taller one, Wallace, threw the lye. Bragg also identified a belt which Wallace was wearing as the belt that was stolen from him the night of the lye-throwing.

Confessed, Officers Said

Confronted with this evidence, city detectives claimed Wallace confessed that he and Sanders committed the robbery, but denied that he threw the lye and charged that it was thrown by Sanders. Later, the detectives testified, the Negro denied that he had anything, whatever, to do with the crime.

In court yesterday, the state put City Detectives Smith, John Carson and Red Gang on the witness stand to testify to the confession and Bragg was put on the stand to identify the Negro.

Wallace denied that he had anything to do with the robbery and claimed he was working at the Atlantic brewery that night. He said he got the belt from another Negro named Preacher, who was staying at Sanders home when the robbery occurred.

Assistant Attorney-General Corry Smith asked for the maximum penalty of fifteen years. The jury deliberated for only about ten minutes before returning a verdict.

Sanders was jointly indicted with Wallace for robbery, but he was granted a severance and his citizenship was restored so that he could testify. Wallace was represented by Attorney Raymond Witt.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily Times
August 12, 1939

The State's Penal Institutions

Edntor's Note—Following is the text of a report on conditions in the State's penal institutions submitted to Gov. Prentice Cooper under date of July 18 and made public this week by the Governor. The physicians conducting the investigation are Dr. W. O. Baird, of Henderson, president of the Tennessee Medical Society; Dr. J. H. Francis, of Memphis, and Dr. Hugh J. Morgan, of Nashville.

The Honorable Prentice Cooper,
State Capitol,
Nashville, Tenn.
Dear Gov. Cooper:

Your committee appointed to study the medical care of the state's wards has inspected many of the penal and corrective institutions and hospitals of the state. Our inspections of necessity have been limited. While not in a position to submit final recommendations relative to the problem as a whole, we are impressed by emergency situations which exist and which should be promptly corrected. The points which are set out in this letter were verbally presented to Commissioner Taylor on July 10, 1939, and he has doubtless communicated them to you. This letter is simply to make them a matter of record. At a later date, after further investigation and thought, your committee plans to submit a final report. This we wish to do by means of personal conference on or before Oct. 1, 1939. The specific recommendations we would emphasize in the present communication involve no radical changes of policy and but little increase in the expenditure of state funds.

Tennessee State Penitentiary (Nashville)

(A) Definite responsibility should be assumed by one of the two senior medical officers for the work performed by the entire medical staff. At the present this responsibility does not appear to be actually assumed by either officer.

(B) The number of prisoners to be provided for in Nashville and the organization of the medical servicees of the two other state prisons are such as to require at Nashville: (1) A competent general surgeon; (2) a competent internist. Your committee was led to believe that both of the present incumbents are surgeons.

(C) It is the judgment of the committee that one full-time resident physician is preferable to the two part-time interns now employed and that the employment of a full-time physician should involve no additional expense to the state.

(D) A striking deficiency in the medical care provided at this prison is exhibited in the manner of caring for tuberculous patients. Sanitation in the tuberculosis pavilion is abhorrent. Patients here use bed sheets as tents to protect themselves from flies; the floors are filthy; the lack of proper screening is apparent in the kitchen. In short, the situation clearly indicates lack of interest and effort on the part of responsible officers. It is evident here that patients are not receiving adequate medical care. This division of the infirmary needs immediate and expert attention. The fact that the disease, tuberuculosis, for which special provision is made, is so miserably handled, strongly suggests a lack of good medical care of other nonsurgical diseases. Indeed, the recent death from diabetic coma was in the light of our investigation altogether unnecessary and due to gross negligence.

It is evident from our visits to Brushy Mountain and Fort Pillow prisons that prisoners not infrequently are transferred from the central prison without proper physical examination. This constitutes a menace to the health of prisoners and an expense and inconvenience to the state. Adequate medical care in the Nashville prison is essential to the medical care of prisoners in the Brushy Mountain and Fort Pillow institutions.

Recommendations:

(1) The senior medical personnel at the Nashville prison should consist of a surgeon and an internist, one of whom should be made responsible for the entire medical program of the prison.

(2) The medical officers should be made to understand and meet their responsibility in providing and maintaining decent sanitary hospital facilities for sick inmates and should exercise disciplinary control over the subordinates who are responsible for the maintenance of these hospital facilities.

(3) A full-time resident physician should replace the two part-time interns and his salary should be maintenance plus the sum represented by the salaries of the two interns and the maintenance of one intern.

(4) The correction of the specific faults mentioned in the discussion which precedes these recommendations.

Brushy Mountain Prison (Petros)

It is essential that a full-time medical officer be provided to care for a prison and administrative population of approximately 1,000. The medical care of prisoners in this institution is at present largely directed by a young man employed as a hospital orderly and paid $75 per month and maintenance. A consultant who lives forty miles distant, visits the hospital twice a week and receives $75 a month. The $150 a month and maintenance, which is now available should provide infinitely better professional full-time medical care in the form of a resident physician.

Recommendation: That a full-time resident physician be provided and that he be allowed to select from the prisoners such help as he needs.

Reformatory School for Colored Boys (Pikeville)

The medical care of the inmates at Pikeville is consistent with the physical equipment and general facilities of this institution. Living quarters, sanitation and food supply are deplorable. We are especially impressed that the meat, milk and butter ration is meager and below the basic requirements for the age group represented by the inmates. We feel that the medical officer probably does well with the facilities and materials available to him.

Vocational Training School for White Girls (Tullahoma)

With single bed equipment for 103 delinquent girls, this institution now houses approximately 160. This means that 114 girls are occupying fifty-seven single beds which are about three feet wide. Your committee condemns this practice and considers it a flagrant wrong to the inmates. It is contrary to all rules of sex hygiene and health. We urge that this be corrected by the use of double-decker beds. We feel that the conventional medical care of these inmates is quite adequate.

Reformatory School for Colored Girls (Nashville)

What we have said relative to the physical equipment and general condition at the reformatory for colored boys at Pikeville applies to this institution. The medical officer was not available for interview. We were impressed by the probability that the medical care afforded these wards of the state was not inconsistent with the deplorable condition of the institution. We feel that deficiencies in the field of medical care represent only a small part of the problem which the state should face in this institution.

Your committee has also visited the Tennessee Industrial school in Nashville, the State Training and Agricultural School for White Boys in Nashville, the Home for Feeble-Minded (Nashville), the Tennessee School for the Deaf (Knoxville) and the Western, Central and Eastern State hospitals for the mental diseases. We have no comment or recommendations to make relative to them at this time.

Your committee is aware of the fact that you are anxious that we recommend a psychiatrist to supervise the treatment of mental disease in the state hospitals for the mentally ill. It is our opinion that the appointment of such an individual would be ill-advised at the present time. Under existing circumstances we believe that such a director could contribute nothing to improving the treatment of mental diseases in the state institutions. We wish to assure you that the mental health problem in Tennessee is being given serious consideration and study by your committee and that we plan to report findings and conclusions relative to it in the early fall.

Respectfully submitted,
W. O. BAIRD, M. D., Chairman;
J. H. FRANCIS, M. D.,
HUGH J. MORGAN, M. D., Secretary.

Nashville Tenn. Banner
August 8, 1939

State Moves To Improve Prison Health Conditions

By BRAINARD CHENEY

The death of a young Davidson County Negro of diabetes on May 4 at the State Penitentiary set in motion events that brought from Governor Cooper today the assertion that he will "clean-up" sanitation and housing conditions at several of the state institutions and will institute better medical service.

A committee of doctors appointed by the Governor immediately after the prisoner's death, declared, in a report made public yesterday that the prisoner's death "from diabetic coma was, in the light of our investigation, altogether unnecessary and due to gross negligence."

Responsibility for the "gross negligence" and for conditions at the tuberculosis pavilion at the penitentiary, which were the target of sharp criticism from the medical committee, was generally denied by Warden Thomas P. Gore, H. F. Bobo, superintendent of the pavilion, and Dr. Fred T. Overton part-time medical officer serving the prison.

Gore said today he had been in charge of the penitentiary only two weeks at the time of the prisoner's death and knew nothing of the case until death occurred. Drs. Overton and James T. Hayes, another part-time medical officer, and Superintendent Bobo, according to the statement of Bobo and Overton, all began their period of service approximately coincidental with the prisoner's death.

The recommendations of the medical committee, composed of Drs. W. O. Baird of Henderson, chairman, J. H. Francis of Memphis, and Dr. Hugh J. Morgan of Vanderbilt University, secretary, included:

1. Full-time medical officers at the Penitentiary and at Brushy Mountain Prison. At the penitentiary, in addition, a "competent general surgeon."

2. Better diet, living quarters and medical attention for the reform schools for Negro boys at Pikeville, for Negro girls at Nashville, and the reform schools for white girls at Tullahoma, and white boys at Nashville.

"I expect to carry out the recommendations of the committee completely," Governor Cooper said today.

Commissioner of Institutions Andrew (Tip) Taylor said he had received an informal oral report from the medical committee July 16, and had set about having conditions corrected insofar as he was able.

Gore Concurs

With respect to the penitentiary hospital this found confirmation today from Wardon Gore and his subordinates. "I think the whole thing is disreputable," Gore said alluding to the tuberculosis pavilion, "and should be replaced. It is old and rotten and full of leaks and it is a fire-trap," he added.

"I am very glad they (the medical committee) made the investigation. As soon as I was advised of their report by Commissioner Taylor I took up the matter of the sanitary conditions at the pavilion with Mr. Bobo and the doctors.

"We had already ordered screening for the hospital and I believe had begun work on screening it before I learned of the report. I sent down orders immediately to have the pavilion floors scrubbed down every day and I think that has been done."

In its cirticism of the tuberculosis pavilion, the Governor's committee said:

"A striking deficiency in the medical care provided at this prison is exhibited in the manner of caring for tuberculosis patients. Sanitation in the tuberculosis pavilion is abhorrent. Patients here use bed sheets as tents to protect themselves from flies; the floors are filthy; the lack of proper screening is apparent in the kitchen. In short, the situation clearly indicates lack of interest and effort on the part of responsible officers. It is evident here that patients are not receiving adequate medical care.

"This division of infirmary needs

immediate and expert attention. The fact that the disease, tuberculosis, for which special provision is made, is so miserably handled, strongly suggests a lack of good medical care of other nonsurgical diseases."

Superintendent Bobo said today his previous experience had been in hotel-keeping and he had no special training as a hospital superintendent, but that he had seen the need for screening as soon as he took over the hospital management in May. He said he received his orders on matters of sanitation from Dr. Overton.

Dr. Overton said, "We (referring to himself and Dr. Hayes) came to the hospital in May. Shortly after we came the Governor's committee made its inspection. The unsanitary conditions at the hospital were just as they described them.

"We had already sent in a requisition for screens for the pavilion and were making a check-up for needed bed linen and sanitation when they came to inspect.

"I believe we have carried into effect all of the suggestions about the sanitation of the hospital they made, at least insofar as we have been able to do so."

Felix Buchanan, the Negro prisoner who died of diabetic coma on May 4 according to Warden Gore, was 31 years of age and was serving a two-to-five-year sentence for grand larceny. His sentence would have expired in June, 1942.

The death certificate in prison records of Buchanan was signed by Dr. J. P. Cullum, who, Warden Gore said, was the full-time medical officer of the prison when he came. The death certificate showed Cullum had treated Buchanan from April 6 to May 4.

Gore said he had been told following the prisoner's death that he (the prisoner) had, contrary to instructions, gone into the regular dining room and had eaten the regular fare shortly before he died.

Gore said Doctor Cullum left the hospital soon after he became warden.

The warden escorted a reporter for THE BANNER through the tuberculosis pavilion today. The reporter found all of the pavilion, except a portion used for Negro prisoners, now screened. The floors of the pavilion appeared to have been recently scoured and were clean.

The hospital kitchen appeared to be clean and well ventilated. The place as a whole appeared to be free of flies.

Gore said the screening was still in progress and the Negro ward would be screened as soon as possible.

Gore succeeded Joe Pope (Browning appointee) as warden.

Negro Reform School

Criticizing sanitary conditions at the reform school for Negroes at Pikeville, the Governor's committee said in its report:

"Living quarters, sanitation, and food at the institution are deplorable. We find that the meat, milk, and butter rations are far below those needed for basic requirements."

The report continued that medical attention was about in line with the physical conditions of the plant, adding that the medical officer was "doing the best he can with what materials he has."

The white girls' school at Tullahoma was attacked for its policy of using 103 beds for housing its 160 girls.

"There are 114 girls who occupy seventy-odd single beds," the report related. "We condemn this policy as being contrary to right and hold that it wrongs these inmates."

The report criticized the reform school for Negro girls at Nashville on virtually the same points for which it leveled criticism against the school for Negro boys.

The report concluded that the committee had also visited the Tennessee Industrial School, the home for the feeble-minded at Nashville, the school for the deaf at Knoxville, and the Western, Eastern and Central Hospitals for the insane. "We have no comments or recommendations to make relative to them at this time," it set out.

In concluding, the committee commented that it was "aware of the fact that you are anxious that we recommend a psychiatrist to supervise the treatment of mental diseases in the state hospitals for the mentally ill.

"It is our opinion that the naming of such an individual would be ill-advised at the present time. Under existing circumstances we believe that such a director could contribute nothing to improving the treatment of mental diseases in the state institutions.

"We wish to assure you that the mental health problem in Tennessee is being given serious consideration and study by your committee and that we plan to report our findings and conclusions relative to it in the early fall."

CRIME- 1939

Cloaking Crime

ONE OF THE MOST SERIOUS charges directed at the Negro racial group by other races is that there is a tendency to cover up crime. Certain situations that have recently developed in the local community offer ample grounds for the charge as the conduct of a clique is noted, wherein they seek to bring about the reinstatment of teachers in our public school system, even in the face of most flagrant acts involving moral turpitude.

It seems here of late that all an individual charged with an offense toward some defenseless girl student has to do is to call to his assistance a group of racketeers and ex-convicts and before the public can hardly realize it, he is back again at his teaching post with all of the brazen defiance that can possibly be portrayed.

Let some liquor drinker lose his teaching job and he can find a group of "best citizens" treking to the board of education, demanding his reinstatement, in a manner comparable to firemen rushing to a fire.

Is it any wonder that the youths in our public school system are giving so much trouble both at home and on the streets, when teh brazen attitude of these debauchers and drunken sots is so apparent to even the most casual observer?

IT COST HIM $10 TO LEARN THAT 'WHITE' IS 'RIGHT' IN MEMPHIS

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Jan. 12.—Because he tried to protect himself when attacked by three white men, Henry Hopson was fined $10 in City Court last Tuesday evening, after he had told his story to the judge.

According to Hopson's story, he was en route to work last Tuesday morning. Arriving at the gate of the Firestone Company, where he was employed, he was accosted by the night watchman, who inquired what time he was due on the job. Replying, he continued to get his time-card at the punch clock. He was accosted by the same watchman, who snatched the card from Hopson's hand.

Asked what he meant by his action, the watchman accused him of being a "smart nigger," adding that they intended to get rid of him. An argument followed the workman continued. Later in the morning, he was called into the office of the manager to explain the altercation.

After explaining his side, Hopson was told that the company had to take the word of the "white man," and he was summarily thrown into jail.

In order to obtain his freedom, he was forced to pay the fine.

CONVICTS TO CLEAN CAPITOL BUILDING

NASHVILLE, Tenn., May 11 — (UNP)—A few hours of scrubbing with pails and steel brushes used vigorously by four Negro convicts initiating the move, made the Capitol steps take on a new appearance of brightness.

Convict workers will be used to clean the entire Capitol building, H. K. McKinney, superintendent of buildings, reported last week.

Tennessee Judge Fines Two Negroes Two Cents Each

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Jan. 27—(UNP)—After waiting in jail a year to be brought before Federal Court, Walter Woods who pleaded guilty to driving a stolen auto from his home in Brownsville, N. C., to this city, was fined two cents last Tuesday. Since he had been in jail the last twelve months, the court imposed the fine as a formality.

The same court fined Dora Carter Story of Clarksville, Tenn., two cents when she pleaded guilty to a charge of forging a government pension check. Her mother, who was war widow, died in 1935 and the daughter Dora told the court she had always signed the checks for her mother and as the checks kept coming, she "justa kept signing." The court decided she was ignorant of the fact that she was violating the law and imposed a fine of two cents.

Set New Record In Convicting Memphis Negro

MEMPHIS, Feb. 10 — (By James C. Dickerson for ANP) — A new record was set Wednesday in Judge Harsh's criminal court when Charlie Atkins, 27, was tried, convicted and sentenced for the murder Sept. 3 of L. A. (Jack) Gerard, white, all in one day.

Atkins was sentenced by the all-white jury to life imprisonment. This is a summary of Wednesday's hasty schedule in which selecting of the jury took 20 minutes; the first 12 men who sat in the box were chosen; presenting of the state's case, three hours; presenting the defendant's case, two hours; arguments of attorneys and charge to the jury, two hours; deliberation by the jury, one hour and 30 minutes.

The verdict was delivered to Judge T. W. Harsh at 8:30 Wednesday night. Immediately after it was read, Grover McCormick, public defender representing Atkins, entered a motion for a new trial which will be heard next Thursday. Atkins was charged with killing Gerard in the driveway of the latter's home after an argument. Testifying in his own behalf Atkins repudiated his police confession and denied he had been in the vicinity of the Gerard home on the night of the murder.

Knoxville Tenn. Journal
April 7, 1939

Butter, Eggs' Racket Slated For Hearing

19 Negroes To Face Court Tomorrow

The "butter and eggs" racket is due for an airing tomorrow morning when 18 Knoxville Negroes, accused of selling the number slips, and the alleged operator, Walter Kennedy, face General Sessions Court.

The 18 alleged salesmen were booked at County Jail on charges of gaming and Kennedy was booked early yesterday as the alleged operator.

All have posted bonds pending hearings at 9 a. m.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily Times
March 10, 1939

NEGRO'S CUTTING SPREE IS HALTED BY BULLET

A 17-year-old Negro, who reportedly ran amuck in the Silver Moon, West Side night club, was shot down early this morning by Grant Hunt, colored officer, after slashing a Negro man, the special officer and attempting to cut two others.

According to police reports, the razor wielder, James King, of 418½ East Ninth street, slashed Willie Cannon, also colored, of 323½ West Ninth street, swung the razor at another Negro man and a woman and was finally stopped when Hunt sent a bullet into his right leg. The Negro policeman's right hand was badly cut by King, officers said.

Police said King would be charged with assault with a knife following Erlanger hospital treatment. Cannon also was treated in the hospital and ordered charged with disorderly conduct.

The affray and subsequent shooting occurred while the club was filled with hundreds of Negroes, a majority of whom had attended a huge political rally earlier in the night.

Columbia, Tenn., Daily Herald
May 3, 1939

COLORED FOLKS OF MID-STATE IN FARM MEET

DELEGATES EXPECTED TO BREAK ATTENDANCE MARK IN 8TH ANNUAL SESSION.

EXPERTS TALK ON MAY 20; MEN TO TAKE FARM TOUR

Colored Women Will Be Told Of Care Of Sick While Reports On Accomplishments Be Features.

The day following the annual two-day session here of the Middle Tennessee Farmers' Institute, on May 20, the Experiment Station will be the scene of the eighth annual Negro Farmers' and Home Makers' Institute for Middle Tennessee, with attendance expected to break all previous records due in part to the increase in negro extension work in the state in recent years.

After the opening address by Max C. Smith, president of the institute, Bessie L. Walton and W. H. Williamson, the assistant state agents in negro extension work, will outline the program, and C. E. Brehm, general director of all extension work, will deliver

an address.

H. S. Swingle, fish culturist of the Alabama Experiment Station who addresses the white convention the preceding day, will remain over to make a talk to this meeting on farm ponds, to be followed by Miss Margaret Ambrose, head of women's extension work in the state.

There will then be talks by leading colored farmers of Giles, Davidson, Williamson and Montgomery counties.

The forenoon program will be concluded by a talk from J. E. Stanford, editor of the Southern Agriculturist, Nashville.

In the afternoon the men will be taken for a tour of the Experiment Station by Dr. L. R. Neel, superintendent, who will show the work being done.

The women will have a special session, which will feature reports by colored women of the various counties of special accomplishments and a demonstration on the home care of the sick.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily Times
April 23, 1939

Heat and Homicide

Negro Reader Thinks Economic Conditions Explain Fatal Crimes

To the Editor of The Chattanooga Times:

Attached you will find a heading to an article on the front page of your fine paper which arouses my ire no little. (The headline: "Three Negroes Slain Here Yesterday; Warm Weather Homicide Factor.")

Being a Negro and former Times carrier, I feel that the opinion of police as expressed in that article is grossly absurd. (This is no reflection on the police department, as they have a right to an opinion).

The writer of this note is a full-blooded Negro and really proud of it.

If one had time to check each Negro homicide he would find that a great number of the defendants are second and in some cases third and fourth offenders.

The remote cause of these killings in my opinion is the economic condition under which we live. The weather plays no part in a Negro's temperament. Warm weather just brings more of us together.

The killings are a great reflection against the Negro race and Chattanooga as a whole. They are costly to the city and the number could be greatly reduced.

Six trained Negro police to patrol Negro districts would be a great factor towards that end. Negro jurymen to try Negro cases. Stiffer sentences. Life in prison for all murderers (first degree) without pardon. (I am opposed to capital punishment.) Last but far from least a "clean-up session." By that I mean for a period out of every two or three months have a cruising squad to shakedown and disarm these knife and gun toters.

It can be done. It must be done. Hoping you will forward this to the proper officials as a suggestion from a humble Negro citizen. Thanking you, I am,

Yours truly,
JAMES E. NICKERSON.

Nashville Numbers Racket Now Dominated By Whites

Control of Profitable Business Has Passed From Hands of Negroes—Politics Hinted.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., July 6—The well known "Numbers Racket" of this city, which has been reported takes in a quarter of a million dollars a year from persons who have faith in dreams and play the numbers to "get ahead," is no longer the big business of Negroes here. Reports from reliable sources, such as "numbers runners and numbers writers, say that the game now is in the hands of those who fought it so bitterly a few months ago—the white people.

Several months ago, the great money-making business was in the hands of William (Bill) James and Theodore Acklin, two race men, who took it in its infancy from local whites and made it a business giving employment to hundreds of Negroes. These two race men had stuck with the game for three or four years, then came trouble for the czars of the game.

AKLIN SERVED IN WORKHOUSE FOR GAME

When both men apparently had acquired considerable wealth out of the game, local whites began to complain that the game was against good morals of the city, and was against city decency. During the campaign of a year ago for mayor, the numbers game was an issue. After the campaign, the Attorney General's office here, began rounding up the leaders. At three trials, James and Acklin were given workhouse sentences for the "operations." Acklin served his full term while James received a pardon from the Governor.

When both men were on the ground free, they seemed to be through with the game. James had a sign printed across the window of his filling station: "I am no longer connected with the numbers," signed, Bil James. Acklin, with no other definite business, left the city for a "rest."

During this period of quietness by the numbers kings, white ambitious persons began to lay the ground work for a bigger and more profitable business out of the numbers. Just about the time the city thought the town had been rid of the evil, up jumps another numbers syndicate, controlled by whites and with a greater area of operation than that formerly dominated over by the Negroes. Though it is reported that local whites have a definite hand in two or three of the houses, it is also stated by "Runners" that the biggest end of the business now is under the syndicate of "Some white men from Atlanta."

WHITES NOW HAVE NEGROES 'FRONTING'

The method the white operators use, according to reports from these runners and writers does not give the public a chance to be doubtful. These white operators, according to runners and writers, have hired practically all of the men and women who formerly worked for James and Acklin, and these same writers and runners cover the same area once covered for the Negroes, and some. They know their customers and have them now, as they did when they ran the business for James and Acklin.

According to one well known writer of the game, the whites have set up one or two Negroes as the owners of the syndicate, but according to this writer, "These Negroes just front for Mr. ——— and Mr. ———."

This Courier reporter who has been in this section for weeks digging up news for the thousands of Courier readers over the country, has found that the actual take of the numbers game here is about $10,000 a day between all the syndicates. Of this ten thousand dollars, the operators make a clear profit of about seven thousand dollars. This, of course, varies according to the hits which is very closely regulated to protect the house.

SAY IT HAS BECOME A HABIT WITH THEM

From observers, the people here do not have a particular like for the numbers but will tell you that some have got well on the game. Others will say that the reason they play them now heavy with the whites, it has become a habit with them.

Regardless of the good of the game or the evil of the game, the fact is, the game is no longer controlled by the Negroes here.

A few Negroes are trying to carry on on a small scale, but the bulk of the business is under the syndicate of white operators. Many wonder why there are no raids and arrests now, since the business is operated by different people, when the business was operated by Negroes, warrants were issued by the dozens for writers, runners, and operators, now, the business operates without trouble from the law and the hand of justice.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily Times
August 12, 1939

THE REPORT ON PRISONS

Printed on this page is the text of a preliminary report on conditions in the State's penal institutions, made earlier this week to Governor Prentice Cooper by three prominent physicians who are investigating the institutions by direction of the Governor. Governor Cooper has announced that $500,000 will be used promptly to correct the "emergency situations" emphasized by the reporting physicians. A long-range correctional program ought to result from a final report which these physicians will make to the Governor "after further investigation and thought."

An examination of the physicians' preliminary report will reveal that, bad as certain conditions are in the main prison at Nashville and in other prisons, the institutions in which conditions are the most deplorable are those established for Negroes. At the reformatory for Negro boys, at Pikeville, "living quarters, sanitation, and food supply are deplorable." The investigating physicians were "especially impressed" with the fact that the "meat, milk, and butter ration is meager and below the basic requirements for the age group represented by the inmates." The medical officer at the school "probably does well with the facilities and materials available to him." The quality of medical care provided the inmates is indicated by the physicians' statement that it is 'consistent with the physical equipment and general facilities of this institution."

At the Nashville reformatory for Negro girls, conditions are equally bad. The investigating physicians believe it probable that the medical care afforded the inmates is not inconsistent "with the deplorable condition of the institution," a condition comparable to that found in the school for Negro boys at Pikeville The fundamental social problem involved in the operation of both institutions is underlined by the physicians' statement that "deficiences in the field of medical care represent only a small part of the problems which the State should face" in both institutions.

The final report of the results of the current investigation of all the State's penal institutions will doubtless contain recommendations for a general overhauling of administrative methods, particularly in the field of medical care. But this preliminary report makes it abundantly clear that the two institutions for Negro delinquents have been discriminated against. Substantial improvements at the two reformatories for Negroes should be made immediately.

THE PRESS AND CRIME

Several months ago the Federal Bureau of Investigation supplied data which showed Nashville to be the "murder capital" of the United States. The good story dealing with that matter was buried on the inside pages of the daily press. It is our recollection also, that the daily press was "unanimous" in passing up Nashville's murder record as one unworthy of editorial comment.

It was the Nashville Globe, exclusive among Nashville papers, which gave first page space to our awful murder record and which editorially deplored a statement made by a leading law enforcement officer of Nashville, who stated that little or nothing could be done about our city's persistence in leading the nation in murders unless a police officer could be placed in every home.

This paper expressed the belief that the indifference of both the press and of law enforcement officers toward the bad crime record of Nashville was due to the fact that murders for the most part have been committed by Negroes who have regularly shot down and cut up members of their own race.

We have taken sharp issue with those who have theorized that it was nothing against the fair name of Nashville if murdering was largely confined to the colored population of this city. We have been able to point to the fact that the Federal Bureau of Investigation gives no "differential" of any sort to any city because crime in that city is largely committed by any particular racial group. We have held that it has been as much to the shame of Nashville that wholesale murdering is done by Negroes as it would be if the killers and the killed were white.

It is with a feeling of grief equally as sincere as that we have had for the murder record of Nashville's Negroes that we note an increase in murders committed by members of the white race. We are not certain but that recreancy upon the part of officials and the press in the duty of bearing down on the murder situation here, when it was (and is) principally confined to the Negro race, has contributed to the increase of murders among white people. Crime breeds crime. Disrespect for law and order, when allowed to thrive, breeds disrespect for law.

We have no right to feel that the frequency of murders among Negroes and the ease with which they get away with it, both from the little publicity newspapers give to a "Negro murder" and the "ho-hum" attitude law enforcement officers and courts take toward such murders, do not impress white persons that they too can get away with killing a fellow human being without any serious inconvenience.

Nashville, because of its world-wide reputation as a religious and educational center, seriously reflects upon the character of its religious and educational output when it advertises to the world it also is the city where it is easier to kill human beings and get away with it than anywhere else in the United States.

Nashville's press undoubtedly can reduce Nashville's murded record any time it decides to accept leadership in moulding public sentiment in support of a war on the criminals who kill.

A subscriber to one paper observes that no war on real crime has been waged in his city. In writing to one of the newspapers he says:

"We have seen periodical drives on the bootleggers, number racketeers and petty traffic violations. Why not have a drive on some of the major crimes that remain unsolved and get action?"

We all know that our law enforcement officers read the newspapers and we suspect they get busy in ferreting out the crimes which the public appears to be demanding action upon. The public's will in the opinion of officers of the law and everybody else, is what is emphacized in our newspapers. But Nashville's public was losing all hope of seeing the press of this city win a Pulitzer prize because it was majoring in running down numbers boys and pin-ball machine players to the neglect of what it takes to rid this city of the stigma of being the "murder capital of the United States." The belated decision to put first things first is welcomed and applauded by every realist in the "Athens of the South."

Whites Take Over Numbers Racket In Tennessee

Negro Gamblers Lose Profitable Business

Defender 7-14-39 Rammond

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—The well known 'Numbers Racket' of this city, which has been reported takes in a quarter of a million dollars a year from persons who have faith in dreams and play the numbers to 'get ahead,' is no longer the big business of Negroes here. Reports from reliable sources, such as "numbers runners and numbers writers, say that the game now is in the hands of those who fought it so bitterly a few months ago—the white people.

Several months ago, the great money-making business was in the hands of William (Bill) James and Theodore Acklin, two race men, who took it in its infancy from local whites and made it a business giving employment to hundreds of Negroes. These two race men had sway with the game for three or four years, then came trouble for the czars of the game.

ACKLIN SERVED IN WORKHOUSE FOR GAME

When both men apparently had acquired considerable wealth out of the game, local whites began to complain that the game was against good morals of the city and was against city decency During the campaign of a year ago for mayor, the numbers game was an issue. After the campaign, the Attorney general's office here, began rounding up the leaders. At three trials James and Acklin were given workhouse sentences for the "operations." Acklin served his full term while James received a pardon from the Governor.

When both men were on the ground free, they seemed to be through with the game. James had a sign printed across the window of his filling station: "I am no longer connected with the numbers," signed, Bill James. Acklin, with no other definite business, left the city for a "rest."

During this period of quietness by the numbers kings, white ambitious persons began to lay the ground work for a bigger and more profitable business out of the numbers. Just about the time the city thought the the town had been rid of the evil, up jumps another numbers syndicate, controlled by whites and with a greater area of operation than that formerly dominated over by the Negroes. Though it is reported that local whites have a definite hand in two or three of the houses, it is also stated by "Runners" that the biggest end of the business now is under the syndicate of "Some white men from Atlanta."

WHITES NOW HAVE NEGROES 'FRONTING'

The method the white operators use according to reports from these runners and writers does not give the public a chance to be doubtful. These white operators, according to runners and writers, have hired practically all of the men and women who formerly worked for James and Acklin, and these same writers and they know their customers and have

covered for the Negroes, and some hem now, as they did when they ran he business for James and Acklin.

According to one well known writer of the game, the whites have set up one or two Negroes as the owners of the syndicate, but according to this writer, "These Negroes just front for Mr.— and Mr.—."

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Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily Times
June 19, 1939

KENDRICKS TO ADDRESS NEGROES ON CRIME WORK

Walter Kendricks, Negro investigator in the homicide department, will be the principal speaker at a meeting of the Negro Business league tomorrow night in the Odd Fellows' hall, 124½ East Ninth street.

Kendricks is making appearances before organizations soliciting the public's support in revealing evidences of crime, in the efofrt to reduce the large murder rate among Negroes of this community.

The Rev. John B. Turner, pastor of New Zion Baptist church, and president of the North Chatanooga and Chickamauga Baptist association, will deliver the response for the league.

Chattanooga, Tenn. News
September 1, 1939

Negro Getting Best Medical Attention

Police Would Save Simmons For Sake of Record.

A struggle between life and death is under way at Erlanger Hospital. It has to do with Chattanooga's traffic safety record.

It is centered around Clard Simmons, 26, Negro laborer, injured in an automobile accident here August 24.

If Clard gets well, and there are no more fatalities between now and midngiht, Chattanooga will complete its 112th deathless day.

If Clard des the record is set back to 105 deathless days, this is because the National Safety Council has ruled that an automobile death occurs on the date of the accident, instead of on the day the victim dies.

For this reason Commissioner Eugene Bryan of the police department said Friday he had issued blanket instructions to his officers to do everything within their power to save the life of Clard Simmons.

Capt. Homer Edmondson, head of the traffic division, makes frequent visits to the hospital to confer with hospital staff members about Clard's condition.

Clard has had the attention of four or five doctors. And every nurse on the floor is interested in the case.

"We know that the city's safety record is at stake," said one Friday, "and we are exerting double precationary measures to save the life of this victim."

Chattanooga's last traffic death occurred May 14 with the death of a Negro woman who was struck by a car and fatally injured.

Twelve persons have been killed in the city since January 1. Sixteen had been killed in the same period in 1938.

Simmons was injured in a collision at West Twelfth and Cypress Streets on the night of August 24. Although his condition is regarded as extremely serious, Commissioner Bryan feels that he will recover.

Hospital attendants said Friday that the man had been unconscious most of the time, but had regained consciousness now and seemed to be slightly improved Friday.

1939, CRIME

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